CONFIDENTIAL

Letter to Director
NY 100-42735

December 31, 1947

[redacted] (C) b1

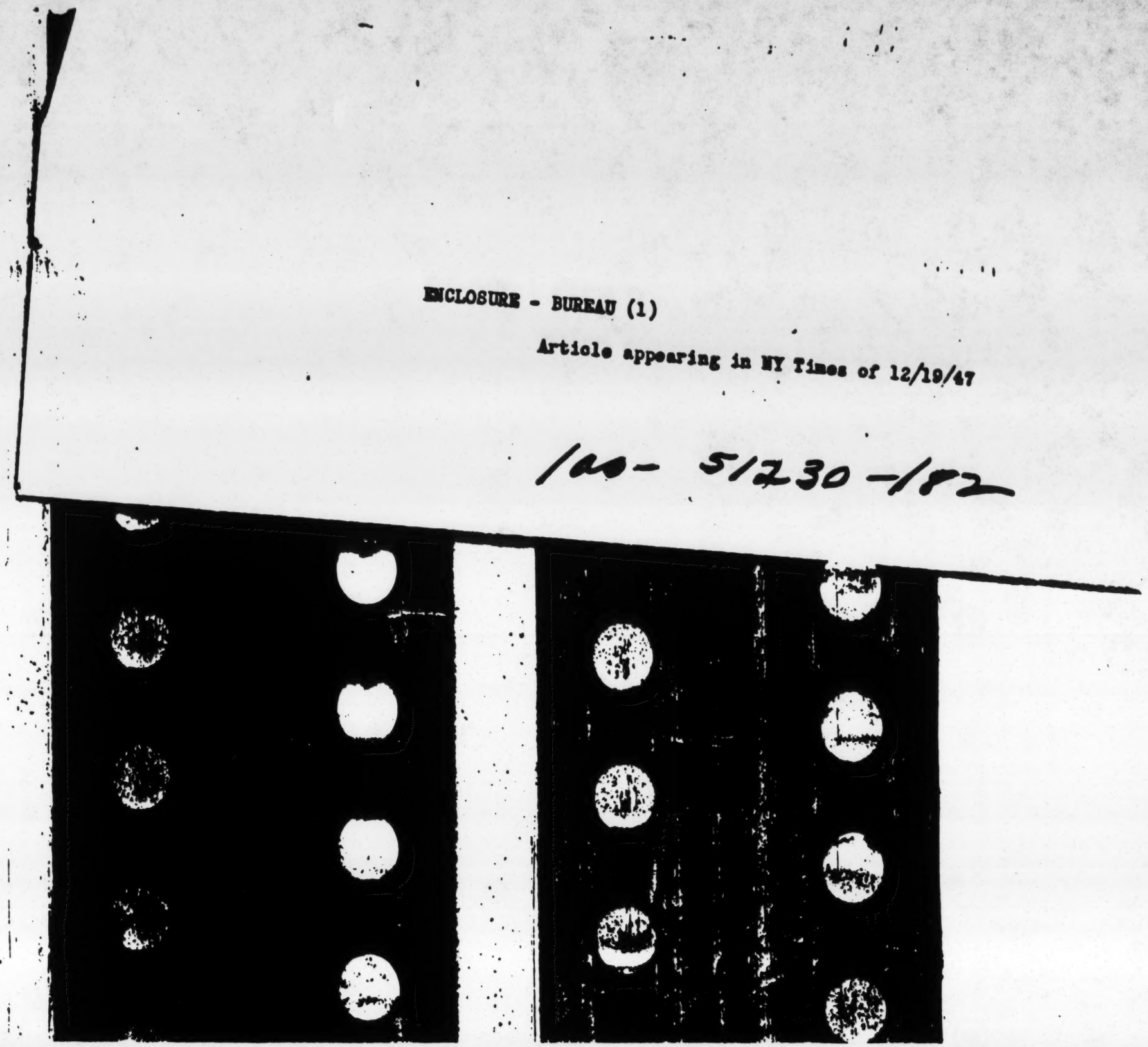
Efforts will be made by this office to ascertain through Confidential Informants and sources of information the underlying circumstances behind the present attack of WILKERSON upon the Peoples Voice and the Bureau will be advised of all developments. For the information of the Bureau the article appearing in the New York Times of December 19, 1947, is being forwarded as an enclosure.

Enc. (1)

ENCLOSURE - BUREAU (1)

Article appearing in NY Times of 12/19/47

100- 51230-182



Harlem Paper Held Aiding Negroes' Foes; Plays 'Uncle Tom' Role, Red Critic Says

The People's Voice, a Harlem weekly published also as PV, at 210 West 125th Street, was accused yesterday by The Daily Worker of playing the role of "Uncle Tom" to the foes of the Negro people, and of following a policy that would mean one thing—"that PV is cowering before the witchhunters."

The charge was made in a signed article in The Worker, official Communist party organ, by Dr. Doxey A. Wilkerson, former editor of PV. Dr. Wilkerson is now described as a "member of the National Committee of the Communist party."

Deploring the passing of the editorial policy that enabled PV to be known as a "genuine 'People's Paper,'" Dr. Wilkerson praised the three columnists who remain from his regime—Paul Robeson, Lena Horne and Dr. W. E. B. DuBois. He attacked the present policy as one that will "lead only to the betrayal of the basic interests of the Negro people and the alienation to its progressive white and Negro readers."

Dr. Wilkerson's successor is Denton J. Brooks Jr., formerly a writer and executive with The Chicago Defender. Mr. Brooks expressed "total ignorance of the reasons back of the Wilkerson story," but said that the controlling interest in PV "is still owned by Dr. Max Yergan," previously considered the treasurer of the Powell-Buchanan Publishing Company, owners of the paper.

The National Negro Congress, an organization in which both Dr. Wilkerson and Dr. Yergen were active until last summer, has been dissolved "officially," but the Council on African Affairs at 23 West Twenty-sixth Street continues, and Dr. Yergen is listed as its top executive.

Mr. Brooks said that Dr. Yergen "subscribes to the new, non-sectarian program of PV and holds it to be the best way of running the paper in the interest of the Negro people."

Harrison S. Jackson of 200 West 135th Street, lawyer for the Rev. Adam Clayton Powell, declared that so far as he had been informed, Mr. Powell, who is also representative for the Twenty-second (Harlem) Congressional District, "is not active in running the paper." It was announced by Mr. Jackson a year ago that Mr. Powell had withdrawn from the paper "completely" after being inactive in its management for a year and a half.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/21/82 BY SP3-Clf/mdl
SP6-Bja/mdl-10/17/87

New York Times, 12/19/47 P. 52 Columns 5 and 6.

100-512 30-182

[redacted] BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
[redacted] DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
[redacted] COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

FEB 17 1948

TELETYPE

WASH FROM NEW YORK 45 17 6-12 P

DIRECTOR ROUTINE

PEOPLES VOICE, ISC.

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IF INFO IS FURNISHED TO OUTSIDE AGENCY [redacted] SHOULD BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL. BUREAU WILL BE ADVISED OF DEVELOPMENTS.

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RECORDED & INDEXED

100-5230-183

EX-93 28

37 FEB 18 1948

62 FEB 25 1948

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Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hoffman
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: June 18, 1948

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: PEOPLE'S VOICE
SECURITY MATTER - C

[redacted] b7C

[redacted] b7C

Rebulet dated 6/14/48 concerning the above captioned subject matter.

[redacted] b7C b7D

The Bureau will be promptly advised of any additional information received by this office.

[redacted] b7C
100-42735

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/21/82 BY SP3-Clifford
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[redacted] b7C

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INDEXED - 66

100-51230-184
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EX-63

16

51 JUL 12 1948

[redacted], NEW YORK

June 14, 1948

DIRECTOR, FBI

PEOPLE'S VOICE
SECURITY MATTER - C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 7/21/82 BY SP2 [illegible]
376-[illegible] 10/1/87

[redacted] b7C

Reference is made to your teletype to the bureau dated February 27, [redacted] b7C

Please advise [redacted] would it be possible for you to secure copies of the publication for forwarding to the Bureau?

100-51230

RECORDED 24 100-51230-185

FBI

12 JUN 23 1948

EX-20

[redacted] b7C

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 11
☆ JUN 15 1948 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Tolson
A. [illegible]
Clegg
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Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☐ Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☒ Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

_____ Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

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☐ For your information: _____

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☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
HQ 100-51230-186 incoming

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FBI/DOJ

Mr. Peyton Ford
The Assistant to the Attorney General

October 12, 1948

Director, FBI

VITO MARCANTONIO;
[redacted]
ADAM C. POWELL, JR.; Aliases
[redacted]

RECORDED 95 100-31130-186
INDEXED 95

EX-49

Reference is made to your memorandum dated September 1, 1948, requesting a summary of subversive information concerning each of the captioned subjects.

Attached is a memorandum on Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. A report from our New York Office by Special Agent [redacted] dated October 11, 1944 was previously furnished to your Division of Records. As you will note the information appearing in that report is information supplied by informants and a summary of newspaper articles concerning Powell. No investigation specifically relating to this subject has been conducted.

Information concerning the additional subjects mentioned above has previously been furnished to your office.

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COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 14
OCT 13 1948
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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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Sp-6 Update 10/1/87
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DATE 2-25-81 BY SP4 SRM/05/ms
Comp # 101,035

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Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
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Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Lohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

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CONFIDENTIAL

[redacted] CLAYTON POWELL, JR.

Background

Powell was born in New Haven, Connecticut, on November 29, 1908, the son of Reverend Adam Clayton Powell, Sr., and Mattie (Fletcher) Powell. Not long after their son was born, the Powells came to New York City where Reverend Powell, Sr., became pastor of the Abyssinian Baptist Church. Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., attended Colgate University from which he received his BA degree in 1930 and Columbia University from which he received his Master's degree in 1932. In 1938, the degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon him by Shaw University.

Powell held his first position in 1926, before he had graduated from College, as manager of his father's church. Later he became assistant pastor and in 1936 when his father retired he became the pastor. The Abyssinian Baptist Church is reported to be one of the oldest Negro congregations in the North and one of the largest Protestant congregations in the United States. It is said to have a membership of 14,000.

Powell married Isabelle Geraldine Washington on March 8, 1933. They were divorced in November, 1944, and he married actress Hazel Scott in August of 1945.

Powell was elected to the New York City Council in 1941. In 1942 he founded the People's Voice, a weekly newspaper and in 1944 was elected to the United States Congress. He was re-elected in 1946.

Activities as an Organizer and Publisher

Currently with his religious activities Powell became active in Harlem Negro organizations. In 1934, Powell organized the Committee for Fair Play for the purpose of securing better jobs for Negroes in Harlem stores and industries. During the same period, the Harlem Labor Union and other organizations were engaged in similar activities and in 1937, Powell, in an effort to unify the activities of all these groups, attempted to merge them into one organization known as the Coordinating Committee for Employment. As chairman of this organization, Powell participated in numerous activities, included among which was a picket campaign for lower rent and intensification of his efforts to secure more and better jobs for Negroes in Harlem stores and industries. He organized a picket line

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Mr. Tolson
Mr. D. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
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Mr. Pennington
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Miss Gandy

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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ENCLOSURE 100-51230-186

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before the New York World's Fair executive offices in the Empire State Building in 1939 and succeeded in raising the number of Negroes employed at the Fair from two hundred to seven hundred thirty-two. It is further reported that as a result of the efforts of Powell and his Coordinating Committee, Negro pharmacists were employed in Harlem drug stores. Negroes obtained employment in the New York Telephone Company and with the Fifth Avenue Bus Company. "Current Biography," 1942

"Who's Who in America," 1948

In the May 23, 1938, issue of the "Daily Worker," Benjamin Davis, Jr., complimented Reverend Powell and the Coordinating Committee for Employment. He stated that "the Committee under the excellent chairmanship of Reverend Powell, Jr., is a brilliant example of follow through upon the heels of the expose of job discrimination in Harlem by the New York State Temporary Commission to Investigate Conditions Among Urban Negroes."

According to the article, the Coordinating Committee represented labor and progressives from all walks of life and included among its affiliates the Association of Catholic Trade Unions, the State, County and Municipal Workers Union - CIO, Musicians Union, Local 802 - AFL, the National Negro Congress, the Communist Party, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters - AFL. Among the outstanding leaders reported in this article to be affiliated with the Coordinating Committee were A. W. Berry, Negro member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party and Audley Moore, Negro woman Communist leader and a member of the Executive Committee of the Communist Party.

In the "Daily Worker" dated September 8, 1938, James E. Ford, a Negro Communist functionary, stated that Powell and his job campaign was actively aided by the Communist Party. 61-7563-6976

[redacted]

100-109061-8; 100-512030-25

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(100-512307125)

According to a financial report for the "People's Voice" dated December 13, 1943, Max Yergan held notes against the "People's Voice" for approximately $53,000 and he also held fifty per cent of both the preferred and the common stock.

Soon after Max Yergan became treasurer of the "People's Voice," Ferdinand Smith, Secretary of the National Maritime Union and an alleged Communist functionary, started writing a column on labor for the paper. Yergan's articles also appeared in the paper regularly. It was also noted that in addition to Powell and Yergan the Board of Directors consisted of Charles Buchanan, Powell's original partner, Hope Stevens, Attorney and President of the Manhattan Council of the National Negro Congress and Ferdinand Smith.

In 1944 Doxey Wilkerson became executive editor of "People's Voice". He was formerly a reporter for the "Daily Worker" and reliably reported to be a member of the National Committee of the Communist Party. (100-51230-134 100-6611)

[redacted]

(100-6611-49) (100-51230-178)

Activities and Affiliations with Communist Controlled Organizations

The following is a brief resume of Powell's activities and affiliations with various groups which includes a considerable number of the organizations cited by the Attorney General as being Communist or

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[redacted]

(Information furnished by [redacted] SL-7589-1, [redacted]

100-3587-71, p. 14 [redacted] Chicago [redacted]

61-7589-106X

[redacted]

670

The "Daily Worker" dated January 7, 1937, mentioned Powell as a speaker at a Workers Alliance demonstration held in New York City to protest the lay off of WPA workers. The demonstration consisted of a parade terminating in a mass meeting at Madison Square Garden.

61-6285, p. [redacted]

The "Daily Worker" dated September 24, 1937, mentioned that Powell was scheduled as a speaker for a meeting of the American League against War and Fascism to be held in Madison Square Garden [redacted]

61-7559-10; 61-7589-[redacted]

The "Daily Worker" dated October 28, 1937, reported that Powell had been elected chairman of the Harlem Scottsboro Defense Fund.

100-51230-7, p. 5 [redacted]

In testimony before the Dies Committee, Powell was reported to have registered as a delegate to the California Youth Model Legislature at Los Angeles, California, on November 5, 1937. According to the testimony, this legislature was formed by the Young Communist League.

61-5763-62X35 [redacted]

(Dies Committee, Volume 10, page 27, testimony of Harper Knolles and J. B. Matthews

Powell was listed as a member of the Executive Committee of the People's Congress for Democracy and Peace of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on

letterhead of that organization dated November 13, 1937. The letterhead also reflected that the People's Congress for Democracy and Peace was called by the American League Against War and Fascism, 268 4th Avenue, New York City and would be held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, November 26, 27, 28, 1937.

The "Daily Worker" dated February 28, 1938, page 2, mentioned Powell among individuals named as supporting the appointment of Simon Gerson as assistant to Stanley Isaacs, president of the Borough of Manhattan.

Gerson was reported to be an avowed member of the Communist Party and after his appointment by Stanley Isaacs, a public outcry arose against the appointment of a member of the Communist Party to such a position of public trust. The Communists and sympathizers flocked to the defense of Isaacs and Gerson. Powell was reportedly affiliated with this group. (Report of Special Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, 78th Congress, Second Session, 57-407-424, p. 154)

** [redacted] (61-7565-171)

** The "Daily Worker" dated March 4, 1939, mentioned Powell as one of the signers of a "call" for a citywide American League for Peace and Democracy parley to be held in New York City April 1, 1939. (61-7559-3629X24)

The "Daily Worker" dated May 27, 1941, carried an article announcing that 160 leading Negro Americans flayed the United States defense program as a sham and accused the Administration of fostering a war drive. The article referred to discrimination against Negroes in the defense program and stated that Negro Americans wanted peace and equality. Powell was listed as a member of the initiation group for this movement. (61-7563-4)

The "Daily Worker" dated March 14, 1942, carried an article entitled "Should Free Browder at Once". In this article Powell is quoted as saying that "The Earl Browder case to me is not a case of Communism, or anything ism. It is a question of an American citizen who has been railroaded to prison and who should be freed immediately."

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as long as we can put Earl Browder in prison, then the entire basis of civil liberties is threatened. The travesty of justice has gone on long enough and an end should be put to it speedily, if not immediately."

In a release issued by the Russian War Relief, Incorporated to all newspapers on March 25, 1942, it was stated that Powell would speak at the New York City Conference of the Russian War Relief on April 11, 1942. The "Daily Worker" dated March 25, 1942, page 5, stated that the meeting would be held at Madison Square Garden on May 20, 1942. Powell was listed as one of the chairmen who would sound the keynote for activity and increasing support for the brave Soviet people and Army." (100-37226-A)

The "Daily Worker" dated March 28, 1942, page 1, reported that hundreds of delegates had arrived in New York City for the opening of the National Free Browder Congress which would convene that day in Manhattan Center, 34th and 8th Avenue. Powell was listed as one of the speakers for the opening session. The "Sunday Worker" dated March 29, 1942, reported the meeting and stated that Powell, in speaking for the group, stated that Browder's freedom was needed to obtain victory against Hitler and that democracy was not free in America while he was in prison.

The Washington "Post" dated May 11, 1942, carried a full page advertisement bearing the title "Why is This Man in Jail?" announcing that a public meeting to urge freedom for Earl Browder sponsored by the Citizen's Committee would be held that day in the Press Club Auditorium 14th and F Street, Washington, D. C. Powell was listed as one of the delegates expected to attend the meeting. (100-3798-140)

Dr. A. Clayton Powell, Jr.

on [redacted] (100-26[illegible]03-38[illegible]) X b7C b7D

on The "Daily Worker" dated June 14, 1942, page 5, Section 2, listed Powell as one of the persons scheduled to speak at the Trade Union and People's Victory Conference to be held June 27, 1942, in New York City which was being sponsored by the "People's Voice," the National Conference of Negro Youth and the Negro Labor Victory Committee. According to a reliable informant, [redacted] (100-115471-2)

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(100-[redacted])

[redacted] was one of the sponsors for a dinner on the "Century of the Common Man", held at the Hotel Astor, New York City, October 27, 1942, under the auspices of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee. (100-5230-25, pp 13)

The "Daily Worker" dated October 30, 1942, page one, quoted Powell's "Soapbox" column in the "People's Voice" as follows: "Ben Davis, Jr., deserves the vote of every Negro. My vote goes to Ben Davis." Benjamin Davis, Jr., at that time was the Communist candidate for Congressman at large for the State of New York. (100-3-4-A)

The "Daily Worker" dated November 3, 1942, page three, carried an article concerning a political forum held at the Abyssinian Baptist Church, New York City, the previous Sunday. According to the article, Reverend Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., was Chairman of the forum. As Chairman, he introduced various political candidates, including Israel Amter, Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, and Benjamin Davis, Jr., all of whom were Communist candidates for office in New York State. (100-135-34-A) (2)

The "Daily Worker" dated November 11, 1942, page one, reported that Powell had endorsed a meeting called "The Four Freedoms Rally", to be held at the Golden Gate Ballroom, 142nd Street and Lenox Avenue, New York City, the following Sunday afternoon. The meeting was sponsored by the Negro Labor Victory Committee. (100-28126-A) b7c

[redacted] (100-115471-35, pp 2 & 19) b7c

In 1942, the letterhead of the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties listed Powell as a sponsor of that organization. "Commissioner A. Clayton Powell, Jr." (100-1170-188)

The "Daily Worker" dated December 23, 1942, page four, reported that Powell was scheduled to speak at a meeting to be held December 28, 1942, at Carnegie Hall in protest against Nazi atrocities to Jews. According to the article, the meeting was organized by the Jewish Peoples' Committee. (100-11380-A)

The "Daily Worker" dated February 5, 1943, page one, carried an article reflecting that Powell was one of the signers of a message to the House of Representatives requesting that the Dies Committee be abolished. The article further reflected that the movement to send such a message was sponsored by the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties. (100-1170-A)

Commissioner Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.

[redacted] b7c

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100-7060-194; [redacted]

The "California Eagle", a West Coast newspaper, dated March 17, 1943, contained an article concerning a speech by Reverend Adam Clayton Powell on March 14, 1943, at the Philharmonic Auditorium, Los Angeles, which was sponsored by the Negro Victory Committee. 100-134289-5, pg 5

On The "Daily Worker" dated April 9, 1943, carried an article reporting that the National Negro Congress was to hold its Eastern Seaboard Conference at the Abyssinian Baptist Church (Powell's church), New York City, on April 10 and 11, 1943. Powell was scheduled as one of the speakers at this Conference according to the "Daily Worker". 100-135-37-35, pg 59

The "Daily Worker" dated April 17, 1943, page four, reported that Powell would be a speaker at an outdoor Second Front rally to be held at 141st Street and Edgecombe Avenue, New York City, from 4:00 P. M., to 7:00 P. M., on April 17, 1943. The article further reported that Miss Lelia Rose Goulden, the new Administrative Secretary of the Upper Harlem Section of the Communist Party, would be among the speakers at the rally. Also named as speakers were Benjamin Davis, Jr., Executive Secretary of the Upper Harlem Section of the Communist Party; Dudley Moore, Communist Organizer; and Elizabeth Barker, Administrative Secretary of the Upper Harlem Section. 100-3-4-4

[redacted]

100-173619- [redacted] 100-35658-9-10

[redacted] 21

The "Daily Worker" dated June 9, 1943, carried an article entitled, "Negro Leaders Here Lead Daily Rally", in which information concerning the Negro Freedom Rally held June 7, 1943, at Madison Square Garden, was published. Powell was reported to have been one of the speakers at this Rally and was quoted as stating that the "Daily Worker" deserved the full support of all people, that it may continue to grow as a people's friend. 100-51230-134, pg 11

[redacted]

62-7721-452, [redacted]

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The letterhead of the American Committee for the Protection of Foreign Born, 192 Fifth Avenue, New York City, dated July 3, 1943, listed Powell as a sponsor of that organization. 62-10317-10

The "People's Voice" dated July 17, 1943, carried an article captioned, "Ickes Leaders Fight Fascist Outrages", in which Powell was quoted as stating, "In this day of crisis when the basic rights and freedoms of men are challenged, the fight needs men like Morris Schappes. His imprisonment will atone freedom, his liberation will find supporters." 100-51230-51

Morris Schappes had been found guilty of contempt and imprisoned as a result of his refusal to testify before a New York State Legislative Investigative Committee on Communist activities.

The letterhead of the Civil Rights Defense Committee of New York City dated August 5, 1943, listed Powell as a member of the National Committee of that organization. There was a statement at the bottom of this sheet on which the letterhead appeared to the effect that the Civil Rights Defense Committee was endorsed by the American Civil Liberties Union and the Workers Defense League.

100-37551-21, pg 5

The "Daily Worker" dated September 28, 1943, page one, carried an article which reflected that Powell was one of the sponsors for the Congress of American-Soviet Friendship, which would be held in New York City on November 6 and 7, 1943, to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the renewal of Soviet-American diplomatic relations. 100-116964-86

The "People's Voice" dated October 9, 1943, carried a large advertisement for Ben Davis for City Councilman. Powell's name and the name of the People's Committee for which he was Chairman, were included among the names of persons and organizations favoring Davis. Davis at the time was Communist candidate for New York City Councilman. 100-51230-72

The "Daily Worker" dated October 12, 1943, page three, carried an article in which Powell was quoted as endorsing Ben Davis, Communist candidate for New York City Council. 100-25869-A

The "Daily Worker" dated October 30, 1943, page three, announced that Powell had endorsed Peter V. Cacchione, Communist candidate for re-election for the New York City Council, and that Powell had advised Cacchione that he had instructed his secretary, who lived in Cacchione's political district, to work for his re-election. 62-44462-A

Powell was a speaker at a forum held under the auspices of the Tom Paine School of Social Science, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, which was held at the New Century Club, 124 South 12th Street, Philadelphia, on November 28, 1943.

100-264855-3, pg 26

Spec Agents [redacted] and [redacted] were present

b7c

The "People's Voice" dated December 18, 1943, carried a picture of Powell over an article quoting Powell as follows: "The imprisonment of Morris Schappes is the most flagrant miscarriage of justice to come to notice in recent years. That a man — a scholar and American — should be persecuted in this country in this day of its crisis will always stand out as a travesty on all that for which the allied nations fight. It is our duty as loyal Americans on this front to take up the fight for Schappes. He must not be the victim of local Fascism. Everything must and will be done for him. This is a challenge and a pledge." (100-51230-94)

The "New York Times" dated December 22, 1943, listed Powell as being affiliated with the Reichstag Fire Trial Anniversary Committee which sponsored a mass meeting at Carnegie Hall, New York City on December 27, 1943, to honor George Dimitroff, former head of the Communist International and a defendant at the Reichstag trial. Dept. of Appc. Common Un-Am Activities 78th Congress, 2nd session; 61-7582-1298, section 5, pg. 1531

The "Daily Worker" dated January 11, 1944, page one, and January 12, 1944, page three, reported that Powell was a speaker at the "Daily Worker" anniversary celebration held at Madison Square Garden in New York City on January 10, 1944. Powell reportedly evoked tremendous applause when he called his own paper, the "People's Voice", the Lenox Avenue edition of the "Daily Worker". Other speakers on the program included such leading functionaries of the Communist Party as Earl Browder, Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, Benjamin Davis, Jr., and Ben Gold, feature writer for the "Daily Worker". Louis Budenz was Chairman of the meeting.

Powell, in his article entitled, "Soapbox", which appeared in the January 15, 1944, issue of the "People's Voice", stated, "This week I congratulate the fighting paper the Daily Worker on the achievement of its twentieth year of consistent battle for mankind's rights. I bring these greetings as the Editor in Chief of the People's Voice, New York City's youngest paper." (100-51230-94)

[redacted] b7D b7C

(100-243140-102

The bulletin purportedly issued by the National Council for American-Soviet Friendship, Incorporated, in January, 1944, listed Powell as a member of that organization. (100-146964-744, pg 95)

[redacted] b7C

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...me a sponsor of the celebration of the 25th anniversary of ...ich was held at the Commodore Hotel in New York City on ...r not given but believed to be 1943) under the auspices of ...ight Needs Today". (Spec Comm on Un-Am Activities, 78th ..., 2nd session; 61-7582-1298, pg 1604)

...bruary, 1944, edition of the "Michigan Chronicle", a colored ...ed a full page advertisement for the International Workers ...lowing statement purportedly by Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., ...e article: "The IWO, the only mutual aid, fraternal, with an ...ers the same low cost insurance to our people as it does to ...fifteen national groups within its protective fold. The IWO ...s" to be a two-fisted, hard-hitting fighter for Democracy's ...rs are open wide to welcome and support the Negro people. I ...heartedly." (100-135-15-179, pg 12)

...itations sent out by the National Federation for Constitutional ...a dinner sponsored by that organization to be held at the Roosevelt ... City, on April 2, 1944, listed Powell as a sponsor.

(100-1170-288, pg 6)

[redacted]

(61-777-34-127, pg 17, [redacted] (C)

...the "Spotlight", which was reported to be the official organ of the ...th for Democracy, in its April, 1944, issue, listed Powell as one ...

(61-777-65-80)

...the "People's Voice" dated May 6, 1944, carried an article concerning ...to be held on May 7, 1944, at the Golden Gate Ballroom, 142nd Street ..., New York City. Powell was listed as a speaker along with ..., who at that time was General Secretary of the Communist Party, USA, ... Davis, Jr., a leading Communist functionary. This meeting was ...ertised in the "Daily Worker" of May 1, 1944, in which it was reported that ... purpose of the meeting was to fight jimcrow and to send the first Negro to ...gress from Harlem. The article also reflected that the meeting was sponsored ... the five Communist Clubs in the Harlem area.

(100-51230-118 & 134)

CONFIDENTIAL

[redacted] b7C

CONFIDENTIAL

[redacted]

(100-293468-6, pg 647;

The "Daily Worker" dated June 27, 1944, reported that Powell was a speaker at a Negro Freedom Rally held in Madison Square Garden, New York City, June 26, 1944, which was sponsored by the Negro Labor Victory Committee and the Peoples Committee.

The "Daily Worker" dated June 29, 1944, reported that Powell would be a speaker at a meeting to be held at the Paramount Mansion, 183rd Street and Nicholas Avenue, New York City, on June 29, 1944, to urge the freedom of Morris Schappes. (100-51230-134, pg 17; 100-29-A)

The letterhead of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, Incorporated, 232 Madison Avenue, New York City, dated October 12, 1944, listed Powell as a member of the Board of Directors of that organization. (100-146964-335)

The "Daily Worker" dated October 14, 1944, published an open letter to Governor Dewey of the State of New York, asking clemency for Morris Schappes. Powell's name appeared as one of the signers of this letter. (100-29-87, pg 20)

The program for the Salute to Young America dinner given by the American Youth for Democracy on its first anniversary, October 18, 1944, which was held at the Commodore Hotel, New York City, listed Powell as one of the sponsors for the dinner. (61-777-34-138, pg 11; Spec Agent [redacted] was present)

[redacted]

(100-7061-894, pg 4;

CONFIDENTIAL

[redacted] b7c

[redacted]

(100-71226-34)

The "Daily Worker" dated February 16, 1945 carried an article reporting that Powell was a sponsor of a meeting to be held at the Golden Gate Ballroom, 142nd Street and Lenox Avenue, New York City, on March 17, 1945 in honor of Benjamin Davis, Jr., Communist New York City councilman. (100-9894-17, page 192)

The "Worker" dated March 25, 1945, page 7, carried a photograph of Powell and named him as a member of the Committee formed to sponsor a drive for financial support for the "Worker" and "Daily Worker".

[redacted]

(100-212169-181, page 4)

The "Daily Worker" dated May 18, 1946 carried an announcement of a mass rally to be held May 23, 1946 at Manhattan Center, 134th Street and 8th Avenue, New York City, to demand the abolition of the Wood-Rankin Committee.

[redacted]

(100-344298-10, page 7)

[redacted]

April 2-7, 1946. Powell was listed as one of the Sponsors of the Conference. This Conference was reportedly the forerunner of the [illegible] (100-344437-8, [illegible] 100-[illegible])

** A program issued by the Civil Rights Congress, which was dated April 19, 1946, announced a Conference to be held on Saturday, April 20, 1946, at the Fraternal Clubhouse, 110 West 48th Street, New York City. The program purported to be a call to action to safeguard civil, labor and minority rights in New York City. Powell was listed as a member of the Initiating Committee. (61-10149-340, page 30)

[redacted]

(61-10149-446X, [redacted])

** The "Daily Worker" dated June 5, 1946, page 12, reported that Powell was a speaker at a "Freedom Rally" held in Cass Technical High School, Detroit, Michigan, on the evening of May 31, 1946, [illegible] the Detroit Chapter of the National Negro Congress. (61-6728-A)

** The "Washington Afro-American", negro newspaper, dated June 8, 1946, carried an article concerning the National Committee to Win the Peace. Powell was listed as a member of the Committee of that organization. (100-344437-page 8)

** The "Daily Worker" dated October 14, 1946, reported that on the previous evening a reception honoring Powell and author Howard Fast had been held, prior to their departure for Columbia, South Carolina, to address the Southern Youth Legislature. (100-6548-273, page 7)

** The "Daily Worker" dated January 13, 1947, page 5, reported that Powell was the dedication speaker at the opening of the International Workers Order sponsored Solidarity House, 124 West 124th Street, New York City. According to the article, the house would be a center for social, cultural, recreational, and welfare activities for the Harlem members of the IWO.

** A letterhead of the American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born, 23 West 26th Street, New York City, listed Powell as a sponsor in 1947. (100-7046-272)

** A letterhead of the Council on African Affairs, for 1947, listed Powell as a member of the Council of that organization. (100-69266-157, page [illegible])

The "Daily Worker" dated April 28, 1948, page 3, listed Powell as one of eight congressmen who had formed a group to lead the fight against the "Mundt Police-state Bill", proposed by the House Un-American Activities Committee. Powell was named as one of the congressmen who called the conference to be made up of 75 trade union and progressive leaders from five states.

[redacted] b7c

The June 5, 1945 issue of the "Buffalo Star", a Negro newspaper, carried an article which stated that Powell had spoken at a mass meeting on May 27, 1945 at the Lincoln Memorial Church in Buffalo, in which he strongly urged the election of Palmer, Negro candidate for the City Council. Powell's speech was reported as being very pro-Russian, and he was quoted as having stated that Western society was finished and that Russia was now the vanguard of freedom for the enslaved people of all races, colors, and nationalities. (100-135-6-15)

(3) [redacted] (100-146964-1159, page 3)

[redacted] (100-7061-1058)

The "People's Voice" dated September 29, 1945 carried an article entitled "All-Out for FEPC Fight Launched", reporting that Powell was a speaker at a meeting sponsored by the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, which was held at the Commodore Hotel in New York City the previous Sunday. (100-10355-A)

[redacted]

A letterhead of the American Youth for Democracy, dated December 3, 1945, listed Powell as one of its sponsors. (61-777-15-279)

(3) [redacted] (100-346992-1A)

(4) [redacted] (100-332851-71, page 2)

The "Daily Worker" dated March 29, 1946 mentioned Powell as a speaker at a rally held at Madison Square Garden to protest a reported drive for World War III. The meeting was held under the auspices of the National Council for Soviet American Friendship. (100-146964-A)

The "Pittsburgh Courier" dated March 23, 1946 carried an article concerning the national Win the Peace Conference, to be held in Washington, D. C.,

[redacted]

Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: [redacted] SAC

[redacted] Rock

POLICE
SECURITY - C

DATE: September 20, 1948

b7C

In a recent interview with [redacted] b7C b7D

[redacted]

furnish the same to the New York Office.

The Bureau will be promptly advised of all developments in

the case.

[redacted]

SP6-Bjd nrde 10/1/87
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/21/82 BY SP3-Chf nrde
N/9/84 SP86TJ10m
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G.P.O.

RECORDED 67
INDEXED ( )

100-5/230/87
19 SEP 21 1948

b7C

100-42735

b7C

[redacted]

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : D. M. Ladd

FROM : [redacted] b7c

SUBJECT:

DATE: September 7, 1948

Mr. Rosen advised me that he had received a call at 11:40 AM on September 3 from Mr. Horan in Peyton Ford's office stating that the Attorney General desired anything of a subversive character on Marcantonio, [redacted] b7c Congressman Powell and [redacted]

Mr. Horan indicated to Mr. Rosen that he had received the request on September 2 and upon inquiry, stated that he had checked the Department's files as yet. Mr. Rosen informed Mr. Horan that this would be a tremendous task, that the information could not be obtained immediately because of the number of files that would have to be searched but that this would be done as rapidly as possible.

[redacted] b7c

Let Mr. Peyton Ford see the attached memo

RECORDED - 112

[redacted] b7c

100-51230-188

B I

SEP 20 1948

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 7/21/82 BY SP2-Clifside

5 C NOV 26 1948

[redacted] 1 b7C

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, New York

22033

DATE: March 14, 1949

SUBJECT: PEOPLES VOICE
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Re our letter dated September 20, 1948.

[redacted] b7D b7C

Two photostatic copies of [redacted] which may be of assistance to the Bureau are being forwarded as an enclosure.

Encs (2)

cc NY 100-26011 -

Sp6-By/cde 10/1/87
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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/21/82 BY SP3-cl/cde
11/19/87 SP6CTJ WA
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1 4 3 ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

[redacted] 22

EX-125

[redacted] b7C

100-42735

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100-51230-189

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58 APR 13 1949

50 (Rev. 4-17-85)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

9 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

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☐ Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

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HQ 100-51230-189 enclosure

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FBI/DOJ

[redacted]

THE PANAMA CANAL
CANAL ZONE
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
Civil Intelligence Section
P.O. Box 37

CABLE ADDRESS:
"PANCANAL, PANAMA"

#52
VIA AIR MAIL

Balboa Heights, C.Z.
October 24, 1949

b7C

C-8-1

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
U.S. Department of Justice
Washington, D.C.

DECLASSIFIED BY SP6-Bjg/jwb #21647
ON 11/21/80
Per Panama Canal Commission letter 11/15/8
G.I.R.

Attention: Foreign Liaison Section

Subject: ADAM CLAYTON POWELL -
Anticipated Visit to Panama

Dear Sir:

It was announced in a recent chapter meeting of Local 713, UPW-CIO, at La Boca, C.Z., that U.S. Congressman ADAM CLAYTON POWELL and his wife, HAZEL SCOTT have accepted an invitation from the above local to visit the Canal Zone around November 29, 1949. It is not known by this office whether POWELL is coming to the Isthmus because of the invitation referred to above, but it is known that he plans to make a trip here with six or seven other Congressmen sometime within the next month.

Although the union appears very pleased with POWELL's expected visit, it is interesting to note that HAZEL SCOTT is scheduled to give a recital in Panama under the auspices of a group headed by GEORGE WESTERMAN, editor of the West Indian newspaper THE PANAMA TRIBUNE and mortal enemy of Local 713, UPW-CIO.

b7C

This office would appreciate any information concerning POWELL that might be useful to The Panama Canal in dealing with him. However, it is realized that such a request might be of a very delicate nature under the circumstances, and if you feel that any information cannot be divulged, please disregard the above request.

b7C

100-51230-19

Sincerely yours,

b7C Stanton Brown

STANTON BROWN
Chief, Civil Intelligence Section

[redacted]

Received from [redacted] through Liaison Channels
Date: 11/29/1949

NAVY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Op321E/mr
P9-2
Ser: 014510P32

4 November 1949

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

From: Director of Naval Intelligence.
To : District Intelligence Officers,
All Naval Districts;
Potomac River Naval Command.

Subject: Subversive Trends of Current Interest.

Enclosure: (A) Conf. Memorandum on subject, dated 1 November 1949.

1. Enclosure (A) is forwarded herewith for information.

[redacted] (ENCL)

S. W. DuBOIS,
By direction.

Copy to:
SecNav
UndSecNav
AsstSecNav
AsstSecNav for Air
CinCPac
CinCLant
ComMarianas
FBI
CIA

DECLASSIFIED BY SP6 Bjorkman
ON 11/26/90 #260,157
Per Navy letter 12/28/84

RECORDED - 28

INDEXED - 28

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37 NOV 18 1949

[redacted]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NOV 29 1949

Op321E/mr

1 November 1949

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

~~CONFIDENTI~~

MEMORANDUM for Director of Naval Intelligence.

Subject: Subversive Trends of Current Interest.

NEGRO CONGRESSMAN TO VISIT PANAMA

1. Negro Congressman Adam Clayton POWELL (Democrat, New York) and his wife, well known Cafe Society night-club entertainer, Hazel SCOTT, have accepted an invitation to visit the Canal Zone from CIO's Communist controlled United Public Workers Local 173. They are expected to arrive on the Isthmus 12 November by U. S. Government transportation.

COMMENT:

During the past three years, the UPW's Local 173 has spearheaded the Communist Party's program of subversion among the natives in Panama. In this connection, Congressman POWELL has a long history as a Communist "fronter" and his activity on behalf of the Communist Party is noteworthy. Highlights of reports on this individual are as follows:

(a) 1934 - Listed by New York police as a member of the National Executive Committee of the CP, USA.

(b) 1935 - Listed as a national committeeman of the American League Against War and Fascism.

(c) 1938 - Member of National Advisory Committee of American Youth Congress (official youth branch of the Communist Party, proscribed as subversive by the Attorney General).

(d) 1942 - Sponsor of Sixth National Conference of the Committee for Protection of Foreign Born (proscribed as subversive by the Attorney General).

(e) 1942 - Sponsor of a dinner of the Joint Anti-Fascist Committee (proscribed as subversive by the Attorney General).

DECLASSIFIED BY SP6 Cpt Jude # 160,157
ON 11/26/96
Per Navy letter 12/28/86

100-51230-191

ENCLOSURE 1

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Subject: Subversive Trends of Current Interest.

(f) 1942 - Member of Citizens Committee to Free Earl Browder (former head of CP, USA).

(g) 1942 - Sponsor of dinner for Elizabeth Gurley Flynn (National Committeewoman of CP, USA).

(h) 1943 - Sponsor of the Citizens Non-Partisan Committee to Elect Benjamin J. Davis (Davis was recently convicted at the New York Communist trial).

(i) 1944 - Sponsor of the Harlem Youth Center of the American Youth for Democracy (this official youth branch of the Communist Party has been proscribed as subversive by the Attorney General).

(j) 1947 - Reported member of Board of Directors of the National Council of Soviet-American Friendship (proscribed as subversive by the Attorney General).

2. Hazel SCOTT, ~~wife of Congressman POWELL~~, also has a record of Communist "front" participation. As late as February 1949, she was listed as a national sponsor of the Joint Anti-Fascist Committee, proscribed as subversive by the Attorney General.

NATIONAL CIO CONVENTION

3. Under the leadership of O. A. Knight, Vice President of the National CIO, the National Convention of that group of unions meeting in Cleveland adopted President Philip Murray's Report which has been hailed as the first victory of the union's anti-Communist majority in its efforts to cleanse the Union of Communists.

On Sunday, 30 October, prior to the opening of the Convention, another CIO Vice President, James B. CAREY,

Op321E/mr

1 November 1949

[redacted]

Subversive Trends of Current Interest.

[redacted] other officials of the CIO, led a national radio discussion of CIO objectives. He admitted it was [redacted] for the Union to rid itself of left-wing elements but [redacted] Convention had been called to formulate policies [redacted] the conditions of the Union members.

COMMENT:

The long heralded housecleaning of Communists [redacted] is complicated by the fact that the organization [redacted] seven left-wing Unions representing approximately [redacted] members. The Union will undoubtedly endeavor not to [redacted] this large body of people.

Although these two CIO leaders publicly denounce [redacted] influence in Union activities, their records contain [redacted] inconsistencies. In April 1948, Knight shared the [redacted] with Communist Louis GOLDBLATT at the inauguration of [redacted] CTAL Congress (Confederation of Latin-American Workers) [redacted] is also President of the Oil Workers International [redacted] as well as a CIO Vice President, was lavish in his praise [redacted] Communist controlled CTAL, its work in Latin America, [redacted] especially of its violently pro-Soviet leader, Vincente [redacted] TOLEDANO. Although Knight explained to the Congress [redacted] program with respect to the European Recovery Program, [redacted] declared his manner carried "no conviction, less [redacted] and no apparent desire to convince his listeners of [redacted] merits of the Plan."

A Pacific Coast strike prevented Knight from [redacted] representing the CIO at the First Congress of Latin American [redacted] Workers held in Tampico, Mexico, September 1948. This Con- [redacted] adopted the infamous Tampico Oil Resolution which pro- [redacted] vides for the withholding of petroleum from the United States [redacted] in the event of war.

Since the mid 30's, JAREY has been the subject of reports dealing with his radical labor activities and connections with Communist "front" organizations. Prior to the

[redacted]

Hitler-Stalin Pact in 1939, CAREY reportedly carried out the Communist Party line, attended Communist Party meetings, distributed "Red propaganda", and engaged in open agitation to further the Communist cause. The change in the Party line at the time of the Pact reportedly precipitated a break between CAREY and the Communist section in the CIO. Nevertheless, CAREY supported CIO's participation in the international Communist "front", the World Federation of Trade Unions. It was not until February 1948, however, following a meeting of the WFTU in Moscow, that CAREY threw his support to the withdrawal of the CIO from that organization.

"CONSCRIPTS FOR PEACE"

4. The French Communist Youth Organ, Avant-Garde, of 12 October 1949, carries the text of an oath "to be taken by new Army recruits before their induction." The oath states the refusal of the individual "to be mercenaries in an aggressive war against free people", and his vow never to fight against the Soviet Union or against "our brothers of the Viet Nam who are fighting against colonialism, American imperialism, war mongers, for the independence of their country." The oath concludes with a solemn vow to place France "in the peace camp at the head of which is 'found the Soviet Union'".

COMMENT:

This oath is reminiscent of the chain reaction of Communist Party declarations not to fight the Soviet Union which was precipitated in February 1949 by Maurice THOREZ, Secretary General of the French Communist Party. This most recent subversive attack on the French Military Forces forms part and parcel of the Current Communist "Peace Offensive", whose base of operations is in France. Of particular interest in this connection is the report that the principal CP "cover" organization in France for the "Peace Offensive", the Association of Partisans for Peace and Liberty, has, after seven weeks of

intensive propaganda, collected more than five million signatures on a "peace ballot."

Respectfully,

S. W. DuBOIS
Captain, USN

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[redacted]

[redacted] herewith for the information of the Bureau are six copies
[redacted] hearings before the Committee on Un-American Activities,
[redacted] relative, in the following matters:

[redacted] testimony of WILL SCOTT FUQUA, September 22, 1950

[redacted] hearings Regarding Communist Espionage, November 8 and
[redacted] December 2, 1949, February 27 and March 1, 1950

[redacted] report on the Honolulu Record, October 1, 1950

[redacted]

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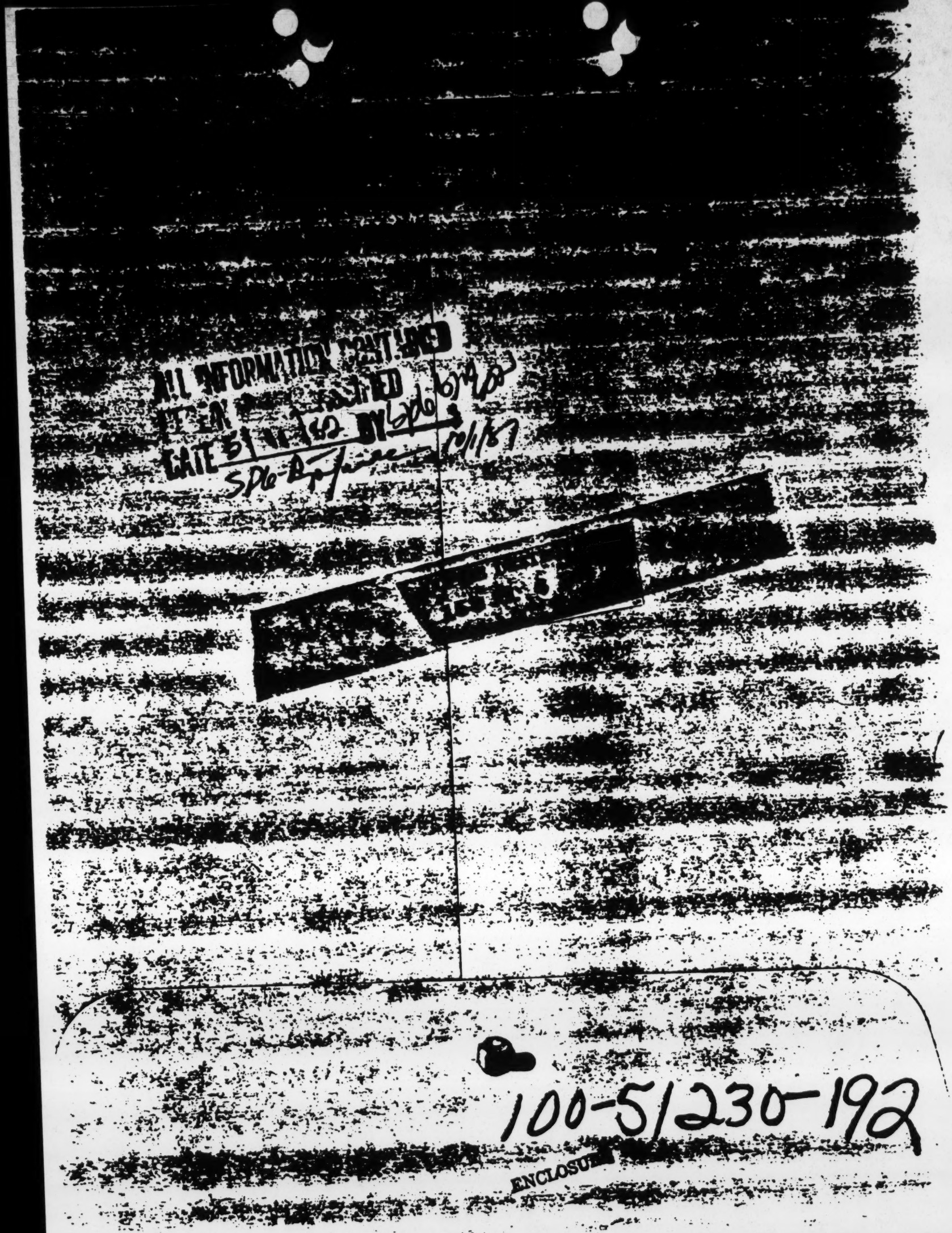

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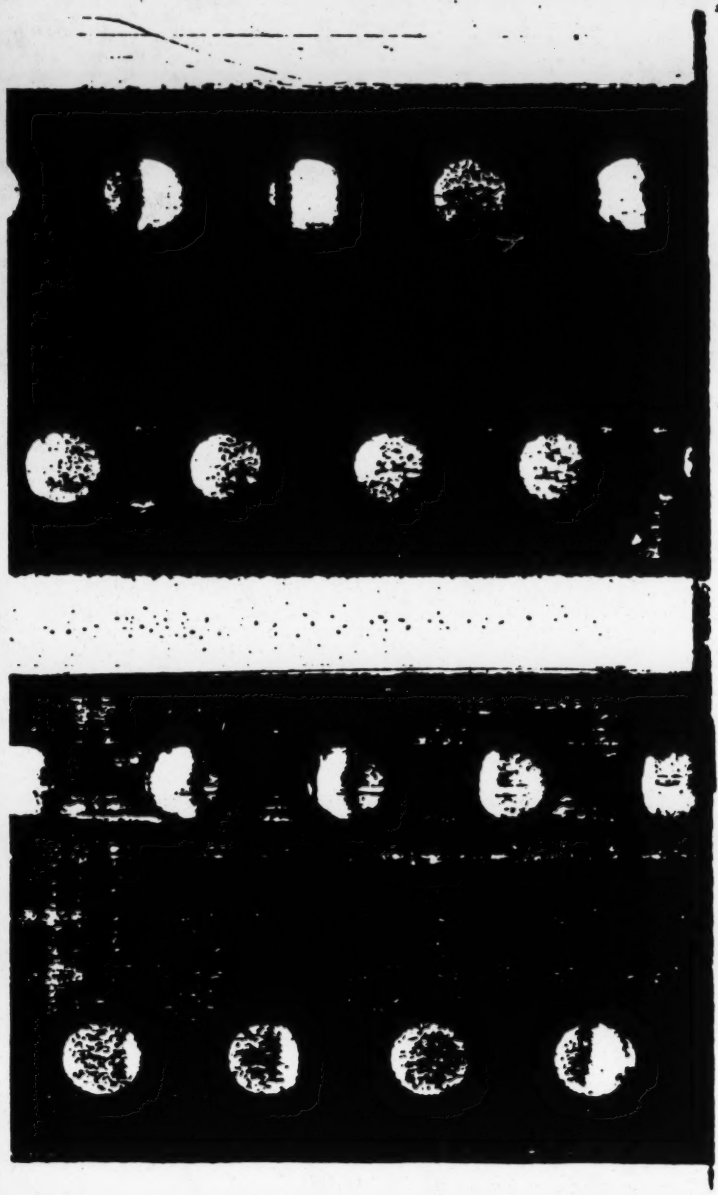

TESTIMONY OF HAZEL SCOTT POWELL

HEARING

BEFORE THE

COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-FIRST CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

SEPTEMBER 22, 1950

Printed for the use of the Committee on Un-American Activities

100-5-1220-162

UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON : 1951

COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JOHN S. WOOD, Georgia, *Chairman*

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BURR P. HARRISON, Virginia	FRANCIS CASE, South Dakota
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FRANK S. TAVENNER, JR., *Counsel*
LOUIS J. RUSSELL, *Senior Investigator*
JOHN W. CARRINGTON, *Clerk of Committee*
BENJAMIN MANDEL, *Director of Research*

II

TESTIMONY OF HAZEL SCOTT POWELL

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1950

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE COMMITTEE ON
UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES,
Washington, D. C.

PUBLIC HEARING

The subcommittee met, pursuant to call, at 10:40 a. m. in room 226, Old House Office Building, Hon. John S. Wood (chairman) presiding.

Committee members present: Representatives John S. Wood (chairman), Francis E. Walter, Burr P. Harrison, and John McSweeney.

Staff members present: Louis J. Russell, senior investigator; Courtney Owens, investigator; John W. Carrington, clerk; and A. S. Poore, editor.

Mr. WOOD. Mrs. Powell, will you raise your right hand, please. You solemnly swear the evidence you give this committee will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mrs. POWELL. I do.

Mr. WOOD. Have a seat.

The committee, after consideration of this matter, determined to permit you to make a statement before the committee, such a statement as you desire to make. I would like to point out, however, that we would not like this to be considered as a precedent for any other person who has been adversely mentioned in publications throughout the country to use this committee as a means of answering such charges. We are making an exception in your case in view of the fact you are the wife of one of our colleagues.

TESTIMONY OF HAZEL SCOTT POWELL

Mr. WOOD. Would you give the court reporter your name and address?

Mrs. POWELL. My office address or my home address?

Mr. WOOD. Both.

Mrs. POWELL. My office address is 132 West One Hundred Thirty-eighth Street, New York City. My home address is 44 Collins Avenue.

Mr. WOOD. You are represented by your manager or counsel?

Mrs. POWELL. No. He is just a friend.

Mr. WOOD. You may proceed. We would appreciate it if you could elevate your voice.

Mrs. POWELL. All right.

Mr. Chairman and honorable members of the committee, I appreciate your allowing me to appear voluntarily before you, especially since I know how busy you are in these closing days of the session.

My prepared statement is rather lengthy, since in my desire to serve a useful purpose in appearing here, I have gone into specific details of the matters under discussion. However, if you wish, I shall content myself with reading just a few high lights, and will submit the entire written statement for inclusion in the record, with the request that it be printed as if read in full. I think the entire statement would take 30 or 40 minutes.

Mr. WOOD. Without objection, the entire statement will be considered as read and included in the record.

(The statement above referred to appears at the conclusion of the witness' oral testimony.)

Mrs. POWELL. My appearance, as you know, is voluntary, and has as its purpose the proposal of positive methods by which to deal with Communists in the entertainment profession. In suggesting such methods, I want also to object to certain current destructive attacks on the profession as a whole, and incidentally want to clear the record of malicious charges that I am a Communist sympathizer.

Mud slinging and unverified charges are just the wrong ways to handle this problem. Against actual Communists and pro-Communists, fair methods will easily bring the truth to light; and unfounded charges merely besmirch the reputation of innocents who happen to be in the way, without actually doing anything effective against the noninnocents.

Typical of the wrong, mud slinging approach are the activities of an organization called Counterattack, which publishes an index of alleged Communists and Communist sympathizers in the entertainment world. Counterattack claims to exercise safeguards, and states that Red Channels listings are not meant to pin a definite Communist tag on those listed. In spite of these claims, Red Channels does include persons completely devoted to democracy, and does label them subversive in the minds of the public.

To show—by way of my personal case—how Red Channels can err, I demonstrate in my statement that most of the listings below my name are completely false, and that the few that have some element of truth do not warrant accusations of disloyalty. As I list in the prepared statement:

Red Channels mentions my name as "reported" connected with nine organizations it considers subversive.

One of these listings was for an appearance, by direction of my employer, which was perfectly proper at the time.

Another was ostensibly a series of benefits for orphaned children. As soon as I found out otherwise, I discontinued my activity.

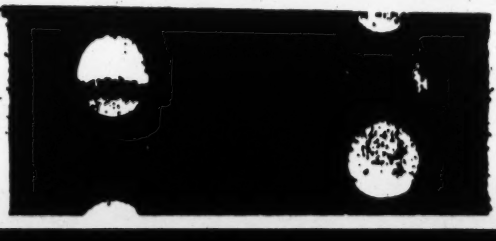
Still another involved use of my name 3 years after I played a benefit for a group which thereafter merged with one that developed a bad name.

A fourth advertised that I was guest of honor at a dinner I never went to or even heard of.

Three others I refused to join.

The remaining two, I never heard of.

After presenting this general refutation, I go into detail regarding each allegation.



Mr. WALTER. May I interrupt you at this point, Mrs. Powell?

Mrs. POWELL. Yes.

Mr. WALTER. Did the publishers of this pamphlet ever contact you in order to verify any of these statements?

Mrs. POWELL. In no way. It was brought to my attention I was in the book. I never heard from them by wire, phone call, or anything.

In addition, I go further and list positive actions of mine which have furthered American freedom, and which are absolutely incompatible with Communist sympathies.

In concluding my testimony, and using the previous demonstration as an example of the damage which can result to the precious good name of loyal citizens when irresponsible charges are published, I offer a way to combat communism among entertainers, while at the same time safeguarding the historical processes of liberty. I quote from the last part of my statement:

May I, in concluding, urge a positive program—one that will spotlight the few Communist infiltrators in my profession, while at the same time keeping us free from domination by scurrilous men who live by poisoning and blackening the good names of their neighbors. The trade-unions, particularly in the past several years, have shown the way to safeguard us from subversives of the right and the left, while operating within the traditional framework of liberty. In entertainment, as in other industry, the labor unions are manned by citizens who love their country and fight for its welfare. I am an active member of three of these unions.

Mr. McSWEENEY. What are they, Mrs. Powell?

Mrs. POWELL. I name them here: The American Guild of Variety Artists; that is the variety performers' union; the American Guild of Musical Artists; and the American Federation of Musicians.

Mr. McSWEENEY. The American Federation of Musicians is the big union?

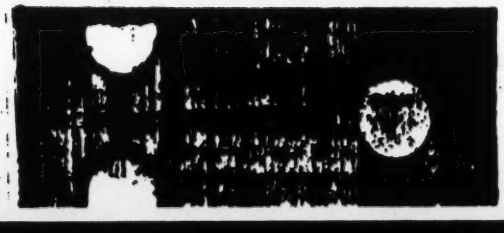
Mrs. POWELL. Yes.

Mr. McSWEENEY. Who is the head of that?

Mrs. POWELL. Petrillo, and I am a member of local 802, which is the New York local.

My membership in Actors' Equity and The Screen Actors' Guild is such that I can assume active status whenever I recommence work in these fields. In the unions and without, everyone agrees that entertainers are important soldiers in the world battle for the minds of men. Therefore, the American entertainment industry has no place for Communists. The entertainment unions should oust any Communist member, but only through orderly procedures presenting opportunity for rebuttal and defense.

Furthermore, the guarantee of democratic methods will immediately eliminate a good many irresponsible charges. The remaining, responsible charges, if true, can best be proved by the method worked out through years of the Anglo-American system of justice. The unions in this field already have in existence procedures for impeaching members, and these procedures should be applied to Communists and their sympathizers. These methods do employ the necessary safeguards I have referred to. Furthermore, they respect the privacy of the individuals on trial; a fact abhorrent to headline-seeking superpatriots.



I want it to be clear that I am not advocating a mass screening of the entertainment profession such as has been suggested recently. Such a screening implies that those subject to it are presumed guilty until they can prove otherwise. Special loyalty oaths insult and degrade persons of firm loyalty. Rather than this, I say that those in my industry—like all other Americans—should be presumed innocent. If an individual's loyalty is questioned, let him be individually charged and tried in a manner that will get at the truth.

There, I believe, is an effective way to handle the problem of Communist and pro-Communist actors and artists. It is certainly a far more desirable way than that chosen by self-styled counterattackers.

Let me add a point in regard to trade-union activity in this field. Having established effective, orderly procedures for ousting subversives, our unions should insist that these or other fair procedures be followed. I call upon my colleagues to present a solid front against the bigots—and against those networks, sponsors, and agencies which seem willing to tuck their tails between their legs and knuckle under to the bigots. If an entertainer is dropped from a job because of a mere private accusation, the unions should forbid any other member from filling that job. Union busting was defeated that way; we can do no less against reputation busting.

I realize we will have to draw a line some place; we cannot, perhaps, wait for the lengthy determination of a trial in the courts if such is instituted. When charges of communism are made formally—through the unions, the law courts, the Congress, or any other duly appointed agency—then a suspended entertainer can be replaced. But mere accusation, or plain name listing, unaccompanied by official action, must not subject an entertainer to the craven crawling of those who control his employment.

Mr. McSWEENEY. May I interrupt there? What has been the procedure? If a person lost his job, they immediately filled it with somebody else?

Mrs. POWELL. Yes.

Mr. McSWEENEY. Does that person necessarily belong to the union?

Mrs. POWELL. Oh, yes.

Mr. McSWEENEY. Your thought is they cannot supplant him until he has a chance to appear and prove——

Mrs. POWELL. That is right; prove that he is a Communist or that he is not.

Mr. McSWEENEY. As it stands now——

Mrs. POWELL. As it stands now, if they get a few phone calls you are dropped from your job and another person is placed in that job, without giving you a chance to clear yourself.

Mr. McSWEENEY. And that might jeopardize your getting back in the job?

Mrs. POWELL. Exactly.

[redacted]

We should not be written off by the vicious slanders of little and petty men. We are one of your most effective and irreplaceable instruments in the grim struggle ahead. We will be much more useful to America if we do not enter this battle covered with the mud of slander and the filth of scandal.

Mr. WOOD. Mr. McSweeney, do you have any questions?

Mr. MCSWEENEY. No. I think it is a very nice statement.

Mr. WOOD. Mr. Harrison?

Mr. HARRISON. Mrs. Powell, I have got before me the Red Channels which has been mentioned. I would like to run over some of the things that they say under your name.

The first thing, they say that you were reported by the vice chairman of the campaign committee to have issued a luncheon invitation to the women's division of the National Citizens Political Action Committee, for November 4, 1946. Do you know whether or not the vice chairman of that campaign committee did make such a statement?

Mrs. POWELL. A statement saying what?

Mr. HARRISON. That you were among those who issued the luncheon invitation to the National Citizens Political Action Committee.

Mrs. POWELL. I have it here. I am listed as having been a member of the National Citizens Political Action Committee.

Mr. HARRISON. They say that the vice chairman of the campaign committee said you were a member of the women's division, as I read the thing.

Mrs. POWELL. No. It says here I am one of the vice chairmen.

Mr. HARRISON. What about the National Citizens Political Action Committee; have you ever had any connection with it?

Mrs. POWELL. No, indeed.

Mr. HARRISON. And you did not issue a luncheon invitation for November 4, 1946?

Mrs. POWELL. No, I didn't. You see, I have a complete list of the things that I mentioned before, and I can go into them if you like.

Mr. HARRISON. I think we can shorten it a little.

In the next item they say that in the New Masses, October 19, 1943, on page 31, you were listed as a participant in an event known as Harlem's Event of the Year, held October 24, 1943, of the Citizens Nonpartisan Committee to elect Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., and that such fact was mentioned by the Un-American Activities Committee in appendix 9, page 631. Is it or not true that such a listing was made by the Un-American Activities Committee?

Mrs. POWELL. I say I did appear at that rally, and I give the reasons. May I give them now?

Mr. HARRISON. What I am getting at is the statement you made that this publication was false, had a typical mudslinging approach, and that the listings were false.

Mrs. POWELL. That is right. Seven out of 9 listings were false.

Mr. HARRISON. I ask you whether or not this committee did, on [illegible]

Mrs. POWELL. That is not true.

Mr. HARRISON. Do you know whether such a leaflet was put out by such organization?

Mrs. POWELL. I have no way of knowing. If it was put out they used my name without my permission or knowledge.

Mr. HARRISON. You do not deny such a leaflet was put out using your name?

Mrs. POWELL. At the beginning of Red Channels they say that every safeguard has been taken to protect innocents and genuine liberals from being labeled Communists or pro-Communists. "Every safeguard" would mean a simple telephone call asking me if I was a member of the organization.

Mr. HARRISON. What they say they are doing is copying from official records. What I want to know is whether they have accurately quoted those listings.

The next thing they say is that the Un-American Activities Committee of California, in their report of 1948, on page 317, listed you as a member of the Musicians Congress Committee. Did the Un-American Activities Committee of California so report?

Mrs. POWELL. I would have no way of knowing this. I would know, however, that it is false.

Mr. HARRISON. If it is false, you don't know whether the publishers of Counterattack were false or whether the Un-American Activities Committee of California were false. What I am getting at is whether the listing is false or the information is false?

Mrs. POWELL. The information is false and the listing is unjustified.

Mr. HARRISON. You do not say the listing is false?

Mrs. POWELL. I have no way of knowing.

Mr. WOOD. Have you attempted to ascertain whether you were so listed in the report of the Un-American Activities Committee of California?

Mrs. POWELL. No. The Un-American Activities Committee here in Washington, you know the first thing you mentioned, there has been correspondence going back and forth; and on the last item mentioned, the Civil Rights Congress, I have tried to ascertain how my name was used as a member of the Civil Rights Congress when I have never been a member of the Civil Rights Congress.

Mr. WOOD. You say you have no way of knowing whether the Un-American Activities Committee of California did so list you. I am curious to know what efforts you have made to ascertain whether it did or not.

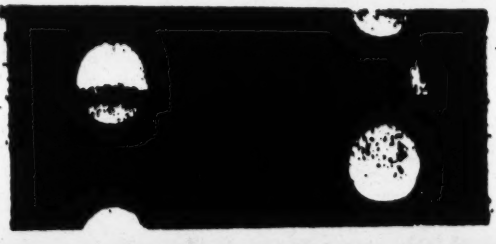
Mrs. POWELL. We have had 2 weeks to check that. I do say the copying of these records without verifying them, and publishing such a thing in a book purporting to show how Communists and pro-Communists have infiltrated our radio networks, is unfair, when they claim in the beginning, to protect themselves from libel, that they are not trying to blacken genuine liberals and innocent persons. I say this is guilt by listing.

Mr. HARRISON. You have made an attack on this publication.

Mrs. POWELL. That is right.

Mr. HARRISON. Of false listings unaccompanied by official action, I believe?

Mrs. POWELL. Yes.



Mr. HARRISON. On the other hand, if they have made correct copies from official documents which they have published in a book without comment, I don't agree with you it is a false listing.

Mrs. POWELL. If you were in danger of losing your job because of this you would agree with me.

Mr. HARRISON. If this is a correct listing from official documents, that is one thing. If it is a false listing, as you have said, it is another thing.

Mrs. POWELL. I haven't said that. I have said that they made an error in listing people. Their purpose, as stated in the beginning of the book, is to show how Communists and pro-Communists have infiltrated the entertainment field. They say they have checked.

Mr. HARRISON. I have read what they have said, and they have said that many innocent people have allowed themselves to be duped into these organizations. What I am trying to get at is whether or not the statements made by Counterattack are true. They are true if they correctly quote their source, and they are not true if they don't. Do you follow me?

Mrs. POWELL. Yes. I don't see any possible way of answering you without reading my prepared statement.

Mr. HARRISON. The next thing they say is that the House Un-American Activities Committee, in appendix 9, page 347, lists you as being the guest of honor at a dinner on April 17, 1943, given by the American Committee for the Protection of the Foreign Born. Can you state whether or not the House Un-American Activities Committee so lists you?

Mrs. POWELL. May I ask you a question? If any committee, an official committee, lists me as having two heads, does that make me have two heads, and does that give Red Channels a right to publish I have two heads?

Mr. HARRISON. Would you deny the right to reprint from official records without comment?

Mrs. POWELL. They say they want to protect innocents.

Mr. HARRISON. They make no bones of the fact they do not evaluate the listings.

Mrs. POWELL. They simply prepare a blacklist.

Mr. HARRISON. I don't agree with you.

They also say that the House Un-American Activities Committee, in appendix 9, on page 643, stated you were a sponsor of the American Peace Mobilization. Are you so listed by this committee?

Mrs. POWELL. I will tell you this much: I am willing to concede that the listing may have appeared, but I challenge the right of this organization of nonofficial, private individuals—this is a case where anyone who decides he is going to publish a record, true or not, correct or not, you know, he is going to determine by the publication of this book whether or not you shall work. And that is exactly what is happening.

Mr. HARRISON. They do nothing that I see in here but simply quote from official records.

Mrs. POWELL. But, don't you see, if those records are false, how can you prove it?

Mr. HARRISON. If they are false, they were false in the original sources.

Mrs. POWELL. Exactly.

Mr. HARRISON. Then the publication is not false.

Mrs. POWELL. It is at fault for printing false reports without verifying them.

Mr. HARRISON. That would leave to a private individual the duty of evaluating official records.

Mrs. POWELL. If I am listed as a member of the Civil Rights Congress and I am not——

Mr. HARRISON. No. The listing is that the House Un-American Activities Committee said you were.

Mrs. POWELL. And I say that is a lie. That is not true. I have never been a member of the Civil Rights Congress, and whoever says so is a liar.

Mr. HARRISON. They don't say you have.

Mrs. POWELL. That is what they say at the bottom, 1946.

Mr. HARRISON. They say you were sponsor of a dinner.

Mrs. POWELL. Of the Civil Rights Congress?

Mr. HARRISON. Yes.

Mrs. POWELL. I never was a sponsor of a dinner or anything else having to do with the Civil Rights Congress.

Mr. HARRISON. Were you a sponsor of the American Peace Mobilization?

Mrs. POWELL. Never.

Mr. HARRISON. Does the House Un-American Activities Committee say you were?

Mrs. POWELL. I don't know. The House Committee on Un-American Activities does not go around trying to do people out of jobs. When the House Committee on Un-American Activities subpenas a person because he or she is suspected of being a Communist, he or she is given the opportunity of saying whether it is right or not.

Mr. WOOD. In justification of the House Committee on Un-American Activities in making the listings that are complained about here by you, are you in a position to say, Mrs. Powell, that the officials of the organizations mentioned—American Peace Mobilization and so forth—didn't use your name on literature as being a sponsor?

Mrs. POWELL. I say if my name was used it was a lie.

Mr. WOOD. What I am trying to get at, you say whoever said you were so listed were liars. In justification of the committee's action—I was not on the committee at the time, and neither were these other gentlemen, but I am told that your being so listed was justified by publications of the organizations themselves. Are you in a position to say that is not true, or if you were so listed it was unauthorized?

Mrs. POWELL. If I was so listed, it was unauthorized.

Mr. WOOD. Then you don't cast any reflections that this committee was lying?

Mrs. POWELL. No; nor do I say the publishers of Counterattack are lying, but I say they have no right to print that.

Mr. WALTER. And you are saying that a simple little telephone call——

Mrs. POWELL. Would have clarified it.

Mr. HARRISON. By a simple telephone call, Counterattack could not change the listings by this committee.

Mrs. POWELL. No, but I could say if I was not correctly listed. Why should they publish anything?

Mr. HARRISON. You think it is wrong for any private individual, in a field as important as the one you have pointed out, to just simply publish people's names with what official documents say about them?

Mrs. POWELL. Particularly when those official documents have listings against these people—and I don't say the committee lied, believe me; I simply say, if the officials of these organizations have listed my name, they have lied.

I entertained at a rally for Benjamin J. Davis despite the fact he was an avowed Communist. He was supported by the Reverend Ethelred Brown, who is a Socialist, and Socialists have hated communism longer, possibly, than any other group. Davis was also supported by Joe Louis. I was instructed to entertain at this rally at the time.

Mr. WALTER. Who was your employer at that time?

Mrs. POWELL. Barney Josephson, the owner of Cafe Society.

Mr. WALTER. Isn't it the booking agent who makes bookings for the artists?

Mrs. POWELL. Yes. When I played at the Roxy Theater in New York, a notice would come, "You will appear at Town Hall, or someplace else, at a certain time." You don't ask who the benefit is for. Your employer at the time tells you to play at a benefit, and you don't ask him why; you go; that is part of your job.

Mr. WALTER. Are you now or have you ever been a member of the Communist Party?

Mrs. POWELL. I am not now, never have been, have never entertained the idea, and never will become a member, which is something nobody has ever asked me.

Mr. WOOD. Any further questions?

(No response.)

(The entire prepared statement of the witness, ordered by the chairman to be incorporated in the record, is as follows:)

STATEMENT OF MISS HAZEL SCOTT BEFORE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES

Mr. Chairman and honorable members of the committee, I appreciate your granting my request to appear voluntarily before the House Un-American Activities Committee. I appear as an American citizen. I appear as a musician—a member of the artistic profession to which I have long belonged, and which has rewarded me with many satisfactions in my lifetime. I do not appear as the spokesman for any group—economic, political, racial, religious, professional, or artistic.

Today we are engaged in a battle with communism which recently has erupted physically in Korea. In addition to the usual weapons, this battle is waged with ideas, words, slogans, organizations, fronts; with truths and lies, with exposure and concealment. Because so much of this battle is abstract, it has been possible for all sorts of witch doctors, pseudo experts, and self-appointed judges to step forward and offer their particular brand of subversive detection. Some are profiteers in patriotism, who seek easy money and notoriety at the expense of the Nation's security and peace of mind. This is the day for the professional gossip, the organized rumor monger, the smear artist with the spray gun. The game of attacking and defaming your neighbor is not only practiced by the overzealous, the misguided, and the superpatriot, but also by the Communists themselves to spread confusion, hysteria, and ultimate panic.

Mr. Chairman, it is my understanding that a citizen who has information about spies, saboteurs, and subversives, should give that information, at once, to the Department of Justice. Also, Mr. Chairman, it is my understanding that any

citizen who has special information regarding the workings of subversives, or about their general program or philosophy, can present his information to your committee, which is composed of elected representatives of the people, and which has the power and duty to transmit its findings to the proper Government agencies and to the public in those instances where further public education is helpful.

But the fact is, Mr. Chairman, that certain citizens have deliberately turned their backs on the procedures which we are accustomed to, and have set themselves up as private judges and tribunals to assess and convict their fellow citizens. One of these groups, called Counterattack, has recently published an index of prominent artists, describing what purports to be their affiliations and activities in connection with Communist or pro-Communist organizations. This index, which is obtaining considerable notoriety, is called Red Channels. To list a citizen indiscriminately with a group of Communist-front organizations is to accuse him of political perversion. Loyalty is a moral question and communism—a disloyal affiliation—is therefore perversion.

It is the activity of Counterattack which prompted me to ask for this hearing today. I myself am one of the victims of their technique of half-truth, innuendo, and guilt-by-listing. My name has been included in Red Channels. I feel it my duty to report the exact facts in the matter as they relate to my own personal case, for what happens to me happens to others, and is part of a pattern which could spread and really damage our national morale and security. An unwarranted and unverified attack on any person's reputation is vile and un-American.

Every human being values his reputation. But two groups above all others must guard their reputations with particular vigilance, since their very existence depends upon the respect and favor of the general public: the public official and the public performer. Both must be particularly jealous of their good names. You gentlemen are elected by the people, just as my colleagues of the musical and theatrical world are elected by their public.

I do not claim that the members of the entertainment world are holier, purer, more patriotic than any other group of citizens. We probably have our quota of dissidents, our quota of Communists, bigots, Fascists. But I do claim that the entertainment profession has done its part for America, in war and peace, and it must not be dragged through the mud of hysterical name-calling at a moment when we need to enrich and project the American way of life to the world. There is no better, more effective, more easily understood medium for telling and selling the American way of life than our entertainers, creative artists, and performers, for they are the real voice of America.

There are those who tell us that our labor unions, our State Department, our schools and colleges, are Red. And there are also those who would have us believe that all our entertainers of the radio, stage, and screen, all our authors and composers and painters, are Red.

What purpose is served by this sort of thing? Are we ready to say, in effect, that the Communists have taken over the whole country except for a few self-appointed patriotic virgins, such as the gentlemen of Counterattack?

I, for one, Mr. Chairman, am not ready to hand over America's entertainment industry to Moscow. A few cunningly contrived lies, some false statements, an impressively long list, such as Red Channels, and the years of preparation, sacrifice, and devotion are killed. Instead of a loyal troupe of patriotic, energetic citizens, ready to give their all for America, you will demoralize them and end up with a dejected, wronged group whose creative value has been destroyed.

Let me refer to my own listing in Red Channels, since my personal case may shed light on the entire issue. I make no specific defense or plea for any other person therein listed, but I do feel that what has happened to me personally probably has happened to other innocent entertainers.

I stand accused, Mr. Chairman, of political perversion, of having joined the Communist plot to overthrow the land of my chosen citizenship. And here is the sort of evidence on which I have been pilloried:

Red Channels mentions my name as "reported" connected with nine organizations it considers subversive:

One of these listing is for an appearance—by direction of my employer—an appearance of which I am not ashamed, for reasons I shall discuss shortly.

Another was ostensibly a series of benefits for orphaned children. When I found out otherwise, I discontinued such activity.

Still another involved use of my name 3 years after I had played a benefit. The group *later* merged with one that developed a bad name.

The fourth listing advertised that I was guest of honor at a dinner I never went to or heard of.

Three others, I refused to join.

The other two, I never heard of.

By this, you can see that Red Channels presents a totally inaccurate picture of Hazel Scott's loyalty. And this misrepresentation must be studied with the publishers' prefatory claim of scrupulous fairness: "Every safeguard must be used to protect innocents and genuine liberals from being unjustly labeled." Don't you agree that "every safeguard" includes the simple expedient of a telephone call or letter? I have never heard in any way from the Counterattack people.

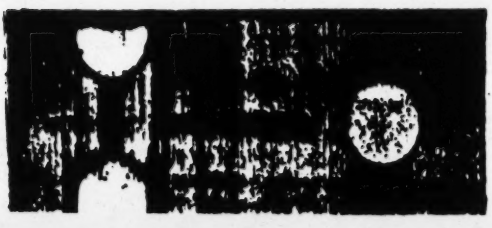
And here it is interesting to note the plaintive wail of T. C. Kirkpatrick, their managing editor, in this Monday's Herald Tribune: He found it "deplorable" that the Tribune mistakenly attributed views to him "without interviewing me on this particular subject."

Now let us get down to cases:

In October 1942, I entertained at an artists' rally for Benjamin Davis, an avowed Communist running for the New York City Council. I don't recall exactly how this appearance came about, but believe it was by direction of Mr. Barney Josephson, my then employer and manager, who often lent my name and time to affairs without consulting me. This thought is strengthened by the fact that Cafe Society's three other headliners appeared with me at the same rally. It is standard procedure in the entertainment business for an employer to sign up his artists for various causes; I recall that while playing at the Roxy Theater all of us in the stage show were sent to play for the United Jewish Appeal's Night of Stars and other benefits. I am glad to have appeared at these affairs, and I merely point them out to indicate that this appearance did not make me a UJA member any more than the Davis appearance made me a Communist. In addition, I should like to point out that even constant, active support of Davis in 1943 would not be proof of Communist sympathies. Two years later, Councilman Davis was endorsed by the Democratic Party; when this endorsement was later withdrawn, regular Democratic leaders in the district nevertheless openly continued to support him. Remember, 1941 had seen the election of New York's first Negro councilman. When he declined to run for another term in 1943, Negroes were fearful of losing this hard-won recognition. Davis, as the only Negro running, received support he might not otherwise have enjoyed. This attitude may not be healthy; it is a form of racism. But given the facts of Jim Crow—even in the North—such an attitude is understandable. This drive was strong enough to cause Rev. Ethelred Brown to serve as Davis' campaign chairman. Dr. Brown is and was then a Socialist, which group has hated the Communists longer and more fiercely than any other. Joe Louis, a prominent Republican, supported Davis, as did Donnelan Phillips, whose strong Harlem tenants' organization has refused to allow Communist participation. Remember, too, that Russia was America's wartime ally in 1943; as Senator Mundt said in a radio debate just last month, cooperation with the Communists was at that time necessary.

Since the single 1943 appearance for Davis, under orders from my employer, I have supported only those candidates endorsed by the Democratic Party, the party of my enrollment. Many of these candidates have been opposed by left-wingers from the Communist and American Labor Parties. To cite an example, last fall I played at New York's Golden Gate Ballroom in behalf of Mayor O'Dwyer and Borough President Robert F. Wagner, Jr., who were opposed by Vito Marcantonio and Ewart Guinier, respectively. In fact, I supported the whole Democratic Party slate, which included Earl Brown, who ran against and defeated Ben Davis for a council seat. I defy anyone to find that fact noted in Red Channels, although it claims to note any "anti-Communist action * * * by individual(s) mentioned." The editors limit this protection to cases "known" to them, but since they hold themselves out as experts in this field, do they not have a responsibility to "know" such information?

Next let us examine my connection with the American Committee for the Protection of the Foreign Born, which listed me as "guest of honor" at a 1943 dinner for the United Nations. I am sure that I was not, in fact, so honored at this dinner; at most, my manager, with or without consulting me, allowed the use of my name in some way. I recall nothing about it. I looked up the announcement in a library last week, and found my name listed along with those of Commissioner Edward Corsi, now Republican candidate for mayor of New York; Senator Elbert Thomas, William Allen White, Mayor O'Dwyer, Dorothy Thompson, David O. Selznick, and Jacob Potofsky, president of the militantly anti-Communist Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union. Among others who have been



affiliated with this group—or at least listed as affiliated—are Reinhold Niebuhr (perhaps America's most outstanding anti-Communist Protestant theological philosopher), Msgr. John A. Ryan, Bishop Francis J. McConnell, Rt. Rev. John Montgomery Cooper, Judge Patrick H. O'Brien, Dr. Henry McCracken, Prof. John Dewey, Dean Christian Gauss, Prof. Harold Urey, and George Gordon Battle.

Next, I am listed as a sponsor of the Joint Anti-Facist Refugee Committee, a group which I was told collected money to feed and clothe Spanish orphan victims of the civil war. I was not a sponsor of this group. I did play one or two benefits, on the basis of the cause noted above. By 1943, I had heard disturbing talk about the activities of the group, and when asked to play a joint benefit concert with Paul Robeson I refused, and had nothing further to do with the organization from then on.

If my insignificant and short-lived participation proves my subversiveness, I am at least in the distinguished company of your colleague, the Honorable Emanuel Celler, as as Raymond Pace Alexander, prominent Philadelphia Republican; William Rose Benet, a civil libertarian who opposed any kind of totalitarianism; Mr. and Mrs. Jack Straus, of the Macy family; and Quentin Reynolds, whose ADA role indicates his agreement with barring Communists from groups dedicated to human welfare.

Now we move on to a group of somewhat more recent organizations, with which I had a brief connection—but not the connections reported in Red Channels. I was becoming more sophisticated about politics, as indicated by my break with the the Anti-Facist Refugee Committee, as you shall see. I am listed as having been a member of the National Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences, and Professions. I recall the two groups were sufficiently close so that we understood our names might be used interchangeably.

The company here, too, was good. In April 1946, Attorney General (now Supreme Court Justice) Tom Clark addressed this organization. On the same date in another city, PAC guests heard speeches by Mr. Justice Black and Secretary Frances Perkins, at a dinner whose committee included the Honorables Alben Barkley, Francis Biddle, Sumner Welles, Henry Morgenthau, Jr., and Louis Schwellenbach.

Now, I have already mentioned my activity with the Independent Citizens Committee. It is interesting to note that, although Red Channels lists this group as subversive, it somehow failed to uncover my affiliation. I am glad, nevertheless, to mention it to this committee, for my purpose in appearing here is to throw light wherever it may be helpful. (There have been other groups which unauthorizedly listed me as a sponsor, although Red Channels did not find them. If the committee wants this information, I will go into it later.)

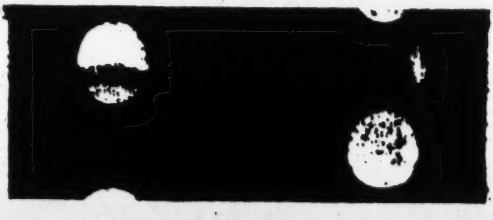
In the spring of 1946, I was pregnant; and, because various policy disagreements at ICC board meetings proved too much for me, I resigned. I regret the necessity, for the real way to fight Communists is to stay in our organizations, outstaying and outfighting them, rather than letting them take over and exploit our good slogans and intentions for their own undemocratic purposes.

After my resignation, the ICC people kept pestering me to revive my participation, so I wrote them a letter, stating my determination to be done with them. Most organizations left me alone when I dropped out, which is why there is no regular record of resignation letters on my part.

In some cases, organizations before which one has appeared continue to list him as a sponsor for other events without his knowledge. I suspect this is the background for my alleged affiliation with the Upper West Side Citizens Committee of the Progressive Citizens of America. I was at no time associated with the PCA, which formed in late 1946. Along with other Cafe Society artists, I did a Sunday afternoon benefit in 1943 for a Citizens Committee of the Upper West Side. This became one of the groups which merged to form the PCA in 1946, and they evidently continued to use my name on the basis of that one benefit appearance 3 years earlier, when PCA was not even in existence.

As I have said, I stayed absolutely away from the PCA, and naturally had nothing whatever to do with its offspring, the Progressive Party. I did not support Henry Wallace, and I voted for President Harry Truman. Again, this well-known position seems not to have interested the publishers of Red Channels.

Now let us take a quick look at the Artists Front to Win the War, and the Musicians Congress Committee. I never heard of these two organizations until I found them listed after my name in Red Channels. Perhaps my manager put me on these lists, too. My supposed affiliation was in 1942 and 1944, when he was sending me all over. I don't know that he did sign me up with these groups; I



just know that I never heard of them till recently. In any case, the company was distinguished once more: Eddie Dowling, leading Catholic stage personality; Sir Ernest MacMillan; Lawrence Tibbett and Todd Duncan, both active ADA'ers; Jan Peerce, Mary Margaret McBride, and Dame May Whitty.

Then there is the implied subversiveness of my apparent support of the American Peace Mobilization in 1941. The Mobilization had some Communists, I am sure. It also had some of America's foremost pacifists, including the Rev. William Lloyd Imes, of St. James Presbyterian Church, and Father Smyth, of Catholic Commonwealth. But it did not have me as a member or supporter. Again, I cannot tell you how my name got there.

All that remains to be refuted, then, is the case of the Civil Rights Congress, whose 1946 dinner I am supposed to have sponsored. That is not true. I had nothing to do with the Civil Rights Congress at any time, because by the time it was formed—in 1946—I had become sufficiently alert to reject prospective Communist fronts, and because I by then had a manager who was more interested in furthering my career than in using my talents politically. Anyone who says I played any part in the Civil Rights Congress is mistaken or a liar.

But the document I am about to present may shed some light on this and other false listings. Here, gentlemen, in their own words, is proof of how such groups operate: My husband, more fortunate than I, did find out about his CRC listing by the simple method of opening his mail one morning and reading a notice of the national board's annual meeting. Immediately, he wrote asking what the notice was for, since he had never agreed to any participation with the congress. I read from the reply sent by Executive Secretary William L. Patterson: "The names of a number of people were presented * * * as members who had not been consulted. You, it seems, were one of them." (This correspondence, incidentally, has been on file with your committee for several months.)

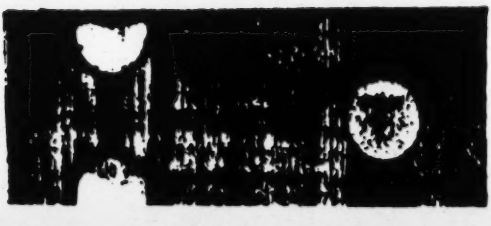
Well, Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of the committee, that pretty well disposes of my 9 Red Channels listings. As I indicated earlier, it is a list which was developed mostly out of thin air. The two actual participations—for Ben Davis in 1943 and for what I thought were starving children in Spain at a still earlier date—were legitimate at the time, and if the circumstances were the same today I would act similarly. While I am unalterably opposed to communism and all other forms of totalitarianism, I am also wholeheartedly for the alleviation of poverty and oppression at home and abroad. For the same reasons, you and your colleagues in Congress—Democrats and Republicans alike—voted for social-security extension and Korean aid.

Furthermore, I will maintain my fight for the application of our liberties to all, regardless of color and creed. Those of the far left and far right have no place in this fight. The latter have no respect for liberty; nor do the former, although they mouth the slogans. But the fact that Communists pretend to stand for the causes for which I stand will not make me abandon the battle. If they should infiltrate my organizations, I will try to rally my colleagues to oust them, so we can continue the fight most effectively. But I refuse to surrender the burning issues of our day to the enemies of democracy.

Having made this clear, let me return to the record of my past activities, giving a balanced picture, and not the picture conveyed by Red Channels' gratuitous and malicious list. My background includes affirmative items which document my loyalty to traditional American democracy.

I have already noted my break with the ICC, and explained why this one alone was in writing. I have also referred to my support of Democrats running against left-wingers. How else can I indicate my approval of causes, except by donating time, energy, and money? I mention my activities along these lines not to boast, but merely to list additional proofs of my devotion to America. This in itself is embarrassing; one's loyalty should be taken for granted, but today, because of the baying of such groups as Counterattack, it seems necessary to actually itemize the things you have done in the cause of democracy. I am particularly reluctant to mention my financial contributions. Charitable donations are personal. I have never wanted publicity for them. But right now my desire to be known for what I am overrides any sensitivity I may have.

I cannot begin to count the various services and hospital appearances I have made. Since 1946, when I cut out all political appearances except for the Democratic Party, I have played before Army, Navy, Marine, and Air Force units and hospital groups, as well as civilian hospitals. Also, I've appeared for community charities such as the Herald Tribune Fresh Air Fund and others. I believe I mentioned earlier the Night of Stars, and I also particularly remember a benefit for a little Wareham, Mass., girl whose legs were frozen and had to be



amputated. Sponsored by Hearst's Boston newspaper, I was glad to be able to raise about a thousand dollars for the child's artificial limbs. With no apologies, whatsoever, I recall donating those services without checking the political beliefs of the little girl or her parents.

Then there is Hadassah, respected women's Zionist group, for whom I appeared last January. And B'nai B'rith, Jewish fraternal organization whose opposition to communism is clear-cut, honored me in March 1948 with an award which praised my "devotion to the traditional American ideals of freedom.".

Now let me discuss my direct financial contributions, which include gifts to organizations with no political overtones, as well as to some very conservative groups. Also, some non-Communist liberal groups, including ones of Social-Democratic orientation whose adherents are traditionally called the vilest and most objectionable names by the Daily Worker.

I have also donated frequently to religious causes, and I should like to note in passing that all my life I was a regular worshipper in the Roman Catholic Church until my marriage in 1945 to a Protestant minister. Since that time I have been an active Baptist.

This list, unlike much of the material in my statement, required no research. It was easily available in my file, and I would gladly have shown it to any of Mr. Kirkpatrick's Counterattack bloodhounds, had they called. Since it includes, as I have mentioned, groups which philosophically and/or politically battle communism, I think it establishes at least a presumption of my nonsympathy with Communist causes. On the other hand, Counterattack's failure to consult me before including my name in Red Channels establishes a presumption of their insincerity regarding "the protection of innocents and genuine liberals." Unless they have reasons for this, that fact alone damns them and calls for the cessation of their malicious activities.

To get back to my contributions, high on the list appear thousand-dollar contributions to the National Urban League, the Heart Fund, and the Damon Runyon Fund. The latter two groups are chaired, respectively, by Walter Winchell and Ed Sullivan, leading anti-Communist newspapermen.

Churches I contribute to include Greater Saint Luke's African Methodist Episcopal Baptist Temple, Nazareth Baptist, Ebenezer Missionary Baptist, Community Church, St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal, Allen African Methodist Episcopal, Victory Baptist, United Seventh-Day Adventist, Holy Trinity African Methodist Episcopal, and Abyssinian Baptist. Various church affiliates includes Northern Baptist Convention Home Mission, St. Peter's Camp Claver, and the New York Baptist City Mission. Add the YMCA and YWCA and the New York Bible Society; also the Boy Scouts Foundation, the Girl Scouts of White Plains, the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, the Westchester Tuberculosis Committee, the New York Blind Lighthouse, the Visiting Nurse Service, and the Metropolitan Police Boys Club of the District of Columbia. Finally, to completely alienate any possible remaining Communist sympathy for me, the League for Industrial Democracy, the Congress of Racial Equality, the Military Order of the Purple Heart, the Affiliated Young Democrats, and the New York State Democratic Committee dinner.

Now let us examine my case as against the stated purposes of Red Channels, which are: "One, to show how the Communists have been able to carry out their plan of infiltration of the radio and television industry. Two, to indicate the extent to which many prominent actors and aritsts have been inveigled to lend their names * * * to organizations espousing Communist causes," and "Three, to discourage actors and artists" from doing so. Nowhere does the Red Channels listing show anything about how the Communists have worked, and nowhere is any distinction made or attempted as to who was inveigled and who knowingly supported these Communist and alleged Communist organizations. As for "discouraging actors and artists from lending their names," what Counterattack's approach does is discourage us from weakening the Communist cause by supporting groups which assist human welfare.

I have already mentioned the publishers' claim that Red Channels notes "anti-Communist action or condemnation of communism" by individuals listed. This claim has a dead ring. For all their research and filing resources, these publishers are strangely unaware of their victims' public anti-Communist records. I have noted also their complete failure, despite their claims, to "safeguard innocents and genuine liberals from unjust labeling." I repeat: one phone call or letter to me would have, at the very least, established that there was another side to the story.

As I have stated, I consider myself unjustly and falsely labeled as disloyal to my country. Counterattack's publishers coyly deny this intent; but, as John Crosby wrote in the Herald Tribune, Red Channels has become the Bible of the broadcasting industry. Such irresponsible publications and activities must be stopped. Loyal Americans must themselves counterattack those who deal in tripe such as counterattack. I applaud the brave words of Eddie Cantor, who said, "Let somebody bigger than a bigot sit in judgment of the accused." And I agree with the editors of Variety that "The self-righteous patriots who individually take it upon themselves to purge their country of those they designate as its enemies" constitute an "invidious form of totalitarianism. * * * We have better weapons than character assassination and guilt by association. There are due processes of law and judgment."

May I, in concluding, urge a positive program—one that will spotlight the few Communist infiltrators in my profession, while at the same time keeping us free from domination by scurrilous men who live by poisoning and blackening the good names of their neighbors. The trade-unions, particularly in the past several years, have shown the way to safeguard us from subversives of the right and the left while operating within the traditional framework of liberty. In entertainment, as in other industry, the labor unions are manned by citizens who love their country and fight for its welfare. I am an active member of three of these unions: the American Guild of Variety Artists, the American Guild of Musical Artists, and the American Federation of Musicians.

My membership in Actors' Equity and the Screen Actors' Guild is such that I can assume active status whenever I recommence work in these fields. In the unions and without, everyone agrees that entertainers are important soldiers in the world battle for the minds of men. Therefore, the American entertainment industry has no place for Communists. The entertainment unions should oust any Communist member, but only through orderly procedures presenting opportunity for rebuttal and defense. In fighting totalitarianism we must not use its own despicable methods. Furthermore, the guaranty of democratic methods will immediately eliminate a good many irresponsible charges. The remaining, responsible charges, if true, can best be proved by the method worked out through years of the Anglo-American system of justice.

The unions in this field already have in existence procedures for impeaching members, and these procedures should be applied to Communists and their sympathisers. These methods do employ the necessary safeguards I have referred to. Furthermore, they respect the privacy of the individuals on trial; a fact abhorrent to headline-seeking superpatriots.

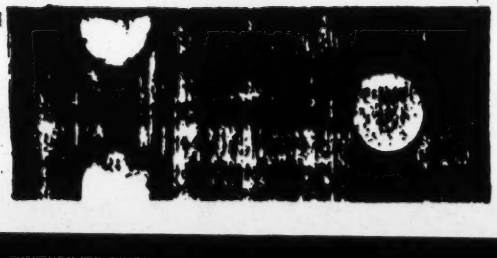
I want it to be clear that I am not advocating a mass screening of the entertainment profession such as has been suggested recently. Such a screening implies that those subject to it are presumed guilty until they can prove otherwise. Special loyalty oaths insult and degrade persons of firm loyalty. Rather than this, I say that those in my industry, like all other Americans, should be presumed innocent. If an individual's loyalty is questioned, let him be individually charged and tried in a manner that will get at the truth.

There, I believe, is an effective way to handle the problem of Communist and pro-Communist actors and artists. It is certainly a far more desirable way than that chosen by the self-styled "Counterattackers."

Let me add a point in regard to trade-union activity in this field. Having established effective, orderly procedures for ousting subversives, our unions should insist that these or other fair procedures be followed. I call upon my colleagues to present a solid front against the bigots, and against those networks, sponsors, and agencies which seem willing to tuck their tails between their legs and knuckle under to the bigots. If an entertainer is dropped from a job because of a mere private accusation, the unions should forbid any other member from filling that job. Union-busting was defeated that way; we can do no less against reputation-busting.

I realize we will have to draw a line some place; we cannot, perhaps, wait for the lengthy determination of a trial in the courts if such is instituted. When charges of communism are made formally, through the unions, the law courts, the Congress, or any other duly appointed agency, then a suspended entertainer can be replaced. But mere accusation, or plain name-listing, unaccompanied by official action, must not subject an entertainer to the craven crawling of those who control his employment.

Now that you gentlemen have heard me so patiently, may I end with one request, and that is that your committee protect those Americans who have honestly, wholesomely, and unselfishly tried to perfect this country and make the



guarantees in our Constitution live. The actors, musicians, artists, composers, and all of the men and women of the arts are eager and anxious to help to serve. Our country needs us more today than ever before.

We should not be written off by the vicious slanders of little and petty men. We are one of your most effective and irreplaceable instruments in the grim struggle ahead. We will be much more useful to America if we do not enter this battle covered with the mud of slander and the filth of scandal.

Mr. WOOD. Mrs. Powell, the committee is grateful for your suggestions and glad to afford you this opportunity to make known your position.

Mrs. POWELL. Thank you.

Mr. WOOD. The committee stands adjourned.

(Thereupon, at 11:10 a. m., on Friday, September 22, 1950, the committee adjourned.)

X

b7C

June 6, 1951

[redacted]

Honorable Adam C. Powell, Jr.
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/21/82 BY SP3-Uf/pde
SP4-Auburn Fuller 7/21/82

Dear Congressman:

Upon your request, Mr. L. B. Nichols called on you February 27, 1951, so that you might furnish to the Federal Bureau of Investigation information concerning the fatal shooting of John Derrick by patrolmen of the New York City Police Department on December 7, 1950.

During the course of this investigation, you related that, according to reliable sources [redacted] b7D

[redacted] You offered to obtain more complete details [redacted] and furnish the information to the Department of Justice of this Bureau in the event an investigation was conducted.

Based on a request of Assistant Attorney General James M. McInerney, Criminal Division, U. S. Department of Justice, dated March 7, 1951, a full investigation was insituted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Mr. Nichols since that date has on numerous occasions contacted you; however, you have not to date furnished any information [redacted] b7D b7C if proven, would no doubt have a substantial effect on the outcome of this case. The completion of our exhaustive investigation is now contingent upon your furnishing this information.

It would be appreciated if you would furnish at an early date the information obtained from your sources in order that we may fully carry out our responsibility of promptly and thoroughly developing every possible aspect of this case.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

cc: Mr. Nichols
[redacted] b7C

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149 JUN 23 1951

C.C. JUN 26 1951

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Re: Carl Powell

[redacted] Powell was interviewed by Mr. Nichols on [redacted] 1951, and the full background data as [redacted] the results of the interview was furnished to [redacted]ment. On March 7, the Department requested [redacted]stigation and the New York Office was in- [redacted] conduct the investigation. Mr. Nichols [redacted]ssman Powell on February 28 and March 1 [redacted]er Powell was not in. Powell finally [redacted] calls on March 8. On March 14 Powell was [redacted]ver he was not in. On March 15 Powell [redacted] call stating that he would go to New [redacted] the desired information. Between this [redacted]il 4, Mr. Nichols made numerous attempts [redacted]ell, however he was not in. Finally on [redacted] Nichols was able to reach Powell at which [redacted] stated that [redacted] b7D

[redacted] Powell at this time [redacted] possibly the information could be fur- [redacted] FBI by an anonymous letter and it was [redacted]t to Powell that the individuals could be [redacted]at which time they could furnish the infor- [redacted] under subpoena. Powell was again called [redacted] his secretary promised to have the call [redacted] May 17. However, Powell never returned the [redacted] Nichols again called Powell on May 21, at [redacted] his secretary apologized and stated she would [redacted] Powell returned the call. However, to date the [redacted]ot been returned. It appears that Powell is [redacted] Bureau the run-around in this matter and due [redacted] of cooperation it is possible that he has [redacted]tion of a factual nature to offer.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson

DATE: February 19, 1953

FROM : L. B. Nichols

SUBJECT: MC INERNEY--MONAGHAN AGREEMENT
NEW YORK POLICE DEPARTMENT
(CIVIL RIGHTS)

For record purposes, at 1:30 p.m. today Ed Ryan of the Washington Post called [redacted] in my office. Ryan said that at the Keating Hearing this morning Congressman Adam C. Powell, Jr., (D-New York) testified that "Nichols could throw a lot of light on the agreement existing between the New York City Police Department and the Justice Department."

Ryan asked for elaborations or comment and [redacted] told him we had no comment whatsoever to make.

cc - Mr. Ladd

cc - Mr. Rosen

[redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 7/21/82 BY SP3 Elefonde
SP6 Elefonde 10/1/87

[redacted]

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MAR 11 1953

56 MAR 25 1953

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TO: MR. LADD

FROM: MR. ROSEN

SUBJECT: [redacted] WILLIAM MORTS CASE
NEW YORK CITY

DATE: 3/2/53

22035

In the absence of SAC Sandman, I advised SA [redacted] the night supervisor, that a news dispatch indicated that Representative Adam C. Powell, Jr. (D-N.Y.) said that he will appear on NBC television Thursday night to tell "the whole truth" about an alleged agreement barring the FBI from investigating New York police [illegible]

I instructed [redacted] to advise Mr. Boardman that this should be covered and the results immediately transmitted to the Bureau. I advised him that a tape recording should be obtained so that we will know the exact language of the broadcast and be in a position to take such action as is necessary.

[redacted] b7C

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23 [redacted] b7C

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RECORDED
9 MAR 3 1953

Office Memorandum

Mr. Rosen

SUBJECT: CIVIL RIGHTS MATTERS
NEW YORK OFFICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 5/21/82 BY SP3 Bufman/mlk

SYNOPSIS:

Highlights of telecast in New York City tonight by Representative Adam Clayton Powell were as follows: Criticized Monaghan as being a liar and front for Police Department brass, claimed Monaghan admitted agreement after denying same on television last Sunday. He asked Monaghan how he could decide when FBI should stop any investigation, FBI knowing far better when to start and stop an investigation. Powell suggested New York PD get rid of "bums" responsible for crime corruption and gambling in New York City. He praised McInerney for admitting existence of agreement. He attributes civil rights violations to both white and Negro Police Officers and states victims are both white and Negro. Powell praised Fred Woltman for breaking and coverage of story re agreement. Verbatim transcript being forwarded by New York Office.

RECOMMENDATION:

None, this is for information.

DETAILS:

Night Supervisor [redacted] b7C New York Office, furnished the following highlights of Representative Adam Clayton Powell's telecast tonight, 7:00 to 7:15 p.m., over station WNBT, New York City. Powell said Police Commissioner Monaghan is a liar and is fronting for tarnished Police Department brass. Powell said that shortly after Monaghan's televised speech last Sunday, he told a New York Times reporter that an agreement between the Police Department and the Department of Justice existed even though he had on Sunday, over television, denied its existence. Powell said Monaghan has admitted that on January 6, 1953, he asked SAC Boardman to respect the agreement and that the Congressional Judiciary Sub-committee has copies of Departmental memoranda regarding this agreement.

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Powell proposed this question to Monaghan, "What business did you and members of your department have in deciding when John Edgar Hoover and the FBI should stop any investigation? The FBI is the finest law enforcement arm of the government and probably the finest in the world. It knows far better when to start or stop an investigation than a lot of our New York [redacted]." 00053 ✓ b7C

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61 MAR 4 1953
b7C

cc: Mr. Nichols

67 MAR [redacted] 1953 b7C 351

[redacted] 8 I
MAR 2 1953

SIX

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Powell said if the New York City police department morale is low they got try to improve it by getting rid of the thugs who let the waterfront become murderer's row, street corners become public offices of bookmakers, and stationery stores become drops for policy gamblers. Powell said he has been confronted daily in the past two weeks by southern Congressmen who are mad because they have been accused of not handling civil rights matters in the south and here is a situation in the north which is not being handled. Powell drew a contrast between the New York police commissioners who were opposing investigation while, for example, the police commissioners in Dallas, Texas, automatically refer all allegations of civil rights violations to the FBI and are glad to do so. Powell praised McInerney for honestly admitting the existence of the agreement, though acknowledging it should not have been made, but he respects McInerney for admitting he made it. Powell commented that Negroes alone are not victims but white people are also victims. He added that Negro and white police officers alike are equally guilty of these acts.

He praised Fred Woltman for breaking this story and the coverage he has given to it. The New York Office is forwarding tonight by fastest mail a six page verbatim transcript of Powell's telecast to the Bureau.

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FBI/DOJ

ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR.
8th District, New York

New York Office:
220 WEST 138TH STREET
Audubon 6-2626

Secretary:
HATTIE FREEDMAN DODSON

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D. C.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Gearty
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Mr. Holloman
Mr. Sizoo
Miss Gandy

b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/21/82 BY SP3 clefande
Sp-Rp/nde 10/1/87

February 27, 1953

Dear Sir:

I am enclosing three letters (annnymous) which I have received from the same source within the past few days. Heretofore, letters from thsi source have been coming into my office at the rate of about once per month, however, they are now becoming more frequent.

Kindly investigate and I shall forward any subsequent ones which I received.

The communication from [redacted], is also forwarded for your attention.

b7c

Very truly yours,

MEMBER OF CONGRESS

A.C. POWELL
ADAM CLAYTON POWELL
ADAM C. POWELL

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

3 envelopes to Pod pd.

b7c

100-51230-192X2
SE 48
RECORDED - 26
MAR 2 1953

b7c

4 MEMO 1. Nichols 2/5/53
2 MEMO 2/6/53
63 MAY 1953
Miss Rosen
INDEXED - 26

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FBI/DOJ

DO-8

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

March 5, 1953

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Jones
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Mr. Holloman
Mr. Sizoo
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

Attached is a letter dated February 27, 1953, from Congressman Adam Clayton Powell with which he forwarded three anonymous letters and requested that the Bureau conduct investigation. This letter was received in the Records Section on March 2 and processed there rather than routed directly to the Director's Office for information and routing to the Investigative Division for acknowledgment and handling. It was also erroneously marked for "Seven," the Laboratory, rather than "Six," the Investigative Division. The Investigative Division received it on March 4 and is making the necessary file searches in order that an acknowledgment may be expeditiously prepared.

An explanation should be submitted by the Records Section as to why this communication was not forwarded immediately to the Director's Office for information in order that the acknowledgment could have been prepared before processing in the Records Section.

Attachment

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100-51230-192X3

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APR 9 1953

MAY 11 1953

b7C PERS. FILE

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COPY [redacted] b7C

3/5/53

Attached is a letter dated February 27, 1953, from Congressman Adam Clayton Powell with which he forwarded three anonymous letters and requested that the Bureau conduct investigation. This letter was received in the Records Section on March 2 and processed there rather than routed directly to the Director's Office for information and routing to the Investigative Division for acknowledgment and handling. It was also erroneously marked for "Seven," the Laboratory, rather than "Six", the Investigative Division. The Investigative Division received it on March 4 and is making the necessary file searches in order that an acknowledgment may be expeditiously prepared.

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DIRECTOR'S NOTATION:

"Yes, I went to know".

"H"

Attachment [redacted] b7C

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DATE 7/21/82 BY SP3 cfg/mde
SP6 cfg/mde 10/1/87

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. NICHOLS

DATE: March 5, 1953

FROM : [redacted] b7c

SUBJECT: RECORDS SECTION HANDLING OF LETTER FROM CONGRESSMAN A. C. POWELL, JR. DATED 2/27/53

SPB-Bufile 10/1/87

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 7/21/82 BY SP3-Ck/mde

Tolson, Ladd, Nichols, Belmont, Clegg, Glavin, Harbo, Rosen, Tracy, Gurnea, Mohr, Winterrowd, Tele. Room, Holloman, Nease, Miss Gandy

SYNOPSIS:

Letter* from Congressman A. C. Powell, Jr., (N.Y.) dated 2/27/53 transmitting three anonymous and threatening letters received at the Bureau on 3/2/53. Construed as a Laboratory matter requiring examination and the letter was processed and forwarded to the Laboratory where it was received on 3/4/53. This letter was handled in the Records Section according to established procedures. The question as to where the letter should have been directed first (possibly Director's Office) involved a question of judgment on the part of the clerk who processed it. While "judgment" in matters of this kind is subject to interpretation, clerical routing clerks have attempted to follow procedures set up in May, 1948 to cut down on the volume of mail going to the Director's Office by sending it directly to the Division handling. To implement this procedure and insure that mail of interest would not be missed by the Director, all other Divisions were instructed to promptly forward to the Director all mail which, in their opinion, would be of interest to him. Such a procedure was followed in this instance and the letter was, in fact, forwarded to the Director's Office. There is no existing requirement that all Congressional mail be automatically forwarded to the Director's Office. On the other hand, all mail forwarded to the Laboratory should first be fully processed in the Records Section. 100-5/230-192X4

RECORDED - 16 62-90053-5X1

APR 9 1953

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATION:

This communication was handled in the Records Section in the best judgment of the processing clerk, [redacted] It was thereafter believed to be of sufficient importance to call to the Director's attention before action was taken, which was also done.

[redacted]

*Detached and being handled and acknowledged in Investigative Division 3/6/53

[redacted] b7c

50 MAY.4 1953

COPIES DESTROYED

[redacted] b7c

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

FBI/DOJ

Memo to Mr. Nichols 3/5/53
Re: Records Section Handling of Letter From
Congressman A. C. Powell, Jr. Dated 2/27/53

Although this communication could have been forwarded to the Director's Office a day sooner, it is not believed desirable to change present regulations concerning the handling of Congressional mail and send all of it arbitrarily to the Director's Office, otherwise that office would be confronted with a large volume of unnecessary correspondence. Accordingly, no change is recommended but all routing clerks will be cautioned to use more care in handling Congressional mail and resolve any doubt in favor of sending it to the Director's Office.

DETAILS:

By letter dated 2/27/53 Congressman A. C. Powell, Jr. of New York transmitted to the Bureau three anonymous communications which he had received apparently from the same source within the past few days. These letters were scurrilous and threatening in nature.

The letter was received in the Bureau on 3/2/53 and handled in the Routing Unit of the Records Section by clerk [redacted] is not immediately available for interview, however it is obvious that she construed this communication as a matter requiring immediate attention by the Laboratory inasmuch as original threatening letters were involved. This is verified by the fact that she placed these communications in cellophane envelopes and sent them through processing channels and routed it to Dtvision Seven, (Laboratory). The communication and enclosures were received in the Laboratory 3/4/53. b7C

Memo to Mr. Nichols 3/5/53
Re: Records Section Handling of Letter From
Congressman A. C. Powell, Jr. Dated 2/27/53

[redacted] in the attached note for the Director dated 3/5/53, questions the fact that this letter was not forwarded immediately to the Director's Office. Pursuant to recommendations of [redacted] formerly of the Director's Office, on 5/22/48 which were approved by the Director, we discontinued forwarding all Congressional mail automatically to the Director's Office. At the same time mail opening and routing clerks in the Records Section were given more authority to evaluate the contents of incoming mail with a view towards cutting down on the volume going to the Director's Office, and wherever possible send mail directly to the Division for handling. To back up these instructions to the Records Section, all other Divisions were simultaneously advised to promptly forward to the Director's Office any mail received by them from the Records Section in which they believed the Director had a personal interest. The obvious purpose of this regulation was to double check the less mature judgment of clerical employees and insure that nothing of importance was missed by the Director's Office. b7C

By and large, this procedure has worked effectively for many years and has prevented an unnecessary amount of mail going to the Director's Office. From time to time clerical employees do not correctly evaluate the content or significance of correspondence, but this is corrected by the more mature and experienced evaluations of Supervisors and Officials in other Divisions.

[redacted] in his memo also indicated that this letter from Congressman Powell was "erroneously" routed to the Laboratory rather than to the Investigative Division. As indicated [redacted] is not immediately available for her opinion in this matter, however, she apparently for very logical reasons considered the material sent in by Congressman Powell as requiring a Laboratory examination and accordingly routed it to that Division. This same question rather frequently arises in correspondence from outside sources where no specific criminal violation is mentioned or referred to and material of this nature is routed to the Technical Laboratory. b7C

In this case both questions involved a matter of judgment on the part of the clerk, [redacted] This judgment was subject to question, however, the questions were resolved to the best of her ability and the mail promptly handled. This problem since it involved Congressional mail, could be easily solved by requiring that all of it go to the Director's Office unopened. However, it is the considered judgment of the Records Section that this not be done and the responsibility to carefully evaluate the mail remain in this section. b7C

[redacted] b7C

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Ladd

DATE: March 6, 1953

FROM : Mr. Rosen

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT
ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR. - [redacted] VICTIM
VICTIM
INFORMATION CONCERNING - CIVIL RIGHTS
EXTORTION

UNKNOWN SUBJECT [redacted] VICTIM

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 7/21/82 BY SP3-Uk/sde

SYNOPSIS

Congressman Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., New York City, forwarded to the Bureau by letter dated February 27, 1953, four communications received by him in Washington, D. C. Three of these are anonymous and were contained in envelopes postmarked Scotch Plains, New Jersey, on February 20, 24, 1953. The other date in the postmark is obliterated. Powell believes these were sent by the same person. They refer to Powell as a "Nigger." They state if he ran for Mayor of New York City he would be defeated, that Powell, like all Niggers, doesn't want any laws to interfere with Niggers and all refer to "Powell and his stinkers." There appears to be no threat in these letters. The fourth letter dated February 20, 1953, on the stationery of the Hotel Pierre, New York City, is signed [redacted]

[redacted] Copies of the three anonymous letters forwarded to the Department for an opinion as to whether violation exists over which Bureau has jurisdiction or whether Postal authorities should handle. Copy of letter from [redacted] forwarded to New York Division for investigation as to possible violation Civil Rights Statute. Acknowledgement to Powell of his letter of February 27, 1953.

ACTION

Attached letter to Powell acknowledges his communication of February 27, 1953, advising that the three anonymous letters forwarded to the Department for an opinion. The attached letter to the Department regarding this should go forward and the attached letter to New York to conduct investigation regarding [redacted] re possible Civil Rights violation. Letter re [redacted] to the Department also attached.

Attachment

[redacted]

100-51230-192X5

[redacted]

RECORDED - 51 12 MAP 11 1953

[redacted]

COPY FILED IN [redacted]

DO-6

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

A. C. Powell

Adam C. Powell

Mr. Tolson ✓
Mr. Ladd ✓
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Rosen ✓
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Jones
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Mr. Holloman
Mr. Sizoo
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

b7c

8-1

House of Representatives U.S.
PUBLIC DOCUMENT
FREE

March 6, 1953

Adam Clayton Powell Jr.

M. C.

The attached is being forwarded in accordance with my promise to you.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/21/82 BY SP3 clf/ude
SP6 clf/ude 10/1/87

NEW YORK, N. Y.

ENCLO. ATTACHED

b7c

Dept

memo Dept 3/10/53

b7c

~~EXPEDITE PROCESSING~~ 100-[illegible]51230-192X6

~~[illegible]~~

RECORDED - 111

MAR 17 1953

b7c

~~178 APR 8 1953~~

COPY

March 5, 1953

POWELL AND HIS STINKERS

ONE IDEA - ONE THOUGHT - NOTHING ELSE BUT NIGGER - WHY NOT BE YOUR PLACE IN CONGRESS? I KNOW YOUR ATTENDANCE DONT MEAN A THING BUT YOU SHOULD BE THERE - YOU ARE DRAWING PAY TO BE ON THAT JOB- OBTAINING MONEY UNDER FALSE PRETENSES- YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT IS DISHONEST BUT DISHONESTY DONT MEAN A THING TO A NIGGER - AND A SUPPOSED PREACHER AT THAT -

WHEN A NIGGER IS UNDER ARREST, AND HE RESISTS, THE COPS HAVE A RIGHT TO BATTER THE HEAD OFF HIM - NIGGERS DONT LIKE ANY LAWS- WHEN THE POLICE BEAT ANY PRISONER-ITS FOR SOME REASON-COPS DONT BEAT PRISONERS FOR THE FUN OF IT. I KNOW NIGGERS AND THEY MUST BE HANDLED AS NIGGERS- NIGGERS ARE A MENACE TO ANY TOWN OR CITY- THEY JUST ARE A NO GOOD LOT-IF YOU WAS ANY USE YOU WOULD TRY AND GET NIGGERS TO BE HONEST-LAW ABIDING AND CLEAN. BUT AGAIN- HOW COULD YOU PREACH THAT? YOU KNOW MANY PEOPLE FALL FOR ANY KIND OF RELIGION? YOU AND DEVINE WERE SLICK ENOUGH TO REALIZE THAT AND DEVINE LIVES THE "LIFE OF RILEY ON OTHER PEOPLES MONEY AND YOU FOUND ANOTHER WAY TO GET THE DOUGH - (CONGRESS)

I KNOW MY "TOWN" (HARLEM) I AM AVAILABLE FOR THE JOB AS MAYOR- WONDERFUL WORDS - FROM A HALF WIT NIGGER- WHAT IDEAS SOME NIGGERS GET-AS SOON AS A NIGGER GETS ENOUGH TO EAT-HE REALLY THINKS HE IS IMPORTANT. IGNORANCE-ILL MANNERS-STINK AND FILTH- THERE YOU HAVE THE NIGGER - I KNOW MY "TOWN"- IGNORANCE- A CONGRESSMAN A PREACHER DONT KNOW NEW YORK IS A CITY ANY CRAP CAN BE A PREACHER FOR NIGGERS - PROOF? YES-POWELL AND DEVINE - DEVINE GOT IN AHEAD OF POWELL AND LAID CLAIM TO BEING - GOD - FIRST - LOTS OF IGNORANT NIGGERS BELIEVE DEVINE IS "IT" - I KNOW MY "TOWN" (HARLEM)

"That was a lie, Clayton, and you know it." TO A "MINISTERS"; TESTIMONY!

YOU EVIDENTLY KNOW SOME THINGS THAT ARE NOT SO - A LAUGH-JUST A PHONY NIGGER "WE MUST CLEAN OUT THE TOP BRASS IN THE POLICE DEPT- "IT IS THE CORE OF ALL CORRUPTION IN NEW YORK CITY " WRONG- THE CORE IS MOSTLY IN HARLEM-NIGGERS-YOU AND ALL NIGGERS DONT WANT LAWS OR INTERFERENCE WHERE A NIGGER IS CONCERNED-NIGGERS DONT LIKE LAWS- I SEE YOU GOT TO IT-THAT NEW YORK IS A -CITY-
IMPEACH-IMPY? SURE IMPEACH EVERYBODY IN A NIGGERS WAY-POWELL AT 4 MEETINGS IN HARLEM ON 3-1-1953- DID YOU ATTEND THAT MANY MEETINGS OF CONGRESS LAST SESSION-GET EVERYBODY OUT THAT WONT LET NIGGERS DO AS THE PLEASE-BETTER STILL FOR POWELL-PUT ALL NIGGERS IN TOP PLACES- DOWN WITH THOSE STINKING-NIGGERS-DONT EMPLOY ANY-HURRAH-POWELL KNOWS THE "TOWN" POWELL FOR MAYOR WOULDNT NEW YORK CITY BE SOMETHING WITH THAT PHONEY-POWELL DID NOT EVEN KNOW NEW YORK WAS A CITY - MY TOWN - I KNOW MY TOWN (HARLEM) JUST A NIGGER SLICKER - A PHONEY - AN ABSENT CONGRESSMAN - BUT DRAWS PAY FOR NOTHING

100-[illegible]-[illegible]

THE BEST LAUGH IN YEARS -
A NIGGER WANTS TO BE MAYOR OF NEW YORK CITY HE KNOWS HARLEM AND THE FILTHY NIGGERS -

IT IS ALMOST UNTHINKABLE THAT A NIGGER CAN GET TO BE SUCH A DAMNED FOOL - TO THINK THE PEOPLE OF NEW YORK CITY WOULD HAVE A NIGGER FOR MAYOR - POWELL VS CHARLIE MC CARTHY -
CHARLIE WINS 20 TO 1 OVER POWELL- OLD SAYING - "WHAT FOOLS THESE MORTALS BE"- NOT A CHANCE THAT THE DEMOS WILL NOMINATE POWELL- MANY SENSIBLE MEN IN THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY - NEITHER THE DEMOS OR REPUBS WOULD CONSIDER FOR A MOMENT TO NOMINATE A NIGGER FOR MAYOR- AS AN INDEPENDENT THE VOTE WOULD BE REPUBS-46% DEMOS. 42% INDEPEND. 12% I AM TELLING YOU NOW - I PREDICTED FOR YOU PRIOR TO NOV 4-1952 - AND TOLD YOU THE NIGGER VOTE WOULD BE NIL. TUCK THIS AWAY FOR POSSIBL FUTURE REFERENCE - THAT 12% FOR POWELL WOULD BE NIGGER SUPPORT - NEGROS WONT VOTE FOR POWELL-BIG DIFFERENCE BETWEEN NIGGERS AND NEGROS

JUST NO BRAINS - SWELLED HEAD-
JUST A HARMLESS CHARACTER - MILDLY INSANE
POWELL IS GETTING ENOUGH TO EAT SO SWELLS
UP LIKE ALL NIGGERS DO-
AR YOU IN WASH. D.C. OR ABSENT
AS USUAL - BUT DRAWING PAY _____.

100-51230-1926X6

RECORDED - 111 ~~62-94453-4~~

March 10, 1953

Assistant Attorney General
Warren Olney III
Director, FBI

b7C

UNKNOWN SUBJECT;
ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR.
EXTORTION
INFORMATION CONCERNING
EXTORTION

There are attached hereto [illegible] of an anonymous communication forwarded to Congressman Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. The letter was received through the United States mails by him as Congressman in Washington, D. C. [illegible] the postmark of Scotch Plains, New Jersey, March 1953. [illegible] of mailing is obliterated.

You are requested to consider this communication together with the three similar ones submitted to you by my memorandum of March 6, 1953, wherein inquiry was made as to whether a violation existed within this Bureau's jurisdiction or whether it was a matter for referral to postal authorities.

b7C

[illegible]

62-99053

FBI

FBI

RECEIVED
MAR 11 1953
COMM-FBI

6 I.R.F.

SP6-B Clark ck/87

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/21/87 BY SP3 Clark

b7C

Assistant Attorney General
Warren Olney III

March 6, 1953

Director, FBI

UNKNOWN SUBJECT
ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR. - VICTIM
INFORMATION CONCERNING
EXTORTION

There are attached hereto, two copies each of anonymous communications forwarded by Congressman Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., New York City. These communications were sent through the United States Mails and bore the postmark of Scotch Plains, New Jersey. The envelopes in which the communications were contained were dated February 20, 24, 1953, and the other date was obliterated.

You are requested to advise, after a review of the contents of the communications, whether a violation exists over which this Bureau has jurisdiction or whether it is a matter that may be properly referred to the Postal authorities as a possible violation of Postal regulations. An early reply will be appreciated as the Congressman has been advised of this referral.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/21/82 BY SP3-Clefside
SP6-Clefside 10/1/87

b7c

CC: Washington Field (with [illegible] comms)

b7c

b7c

RECEIVED FBI
MAR 9 12 PM '53

Tolson
Ladd
Nichols
Belmont
Clegg
Glavin
Harbo
Rosen
Tracy
Laughlin
Mohr
Winterrowd
Tele. Rm.
Holloman
Gandy

RECORDED - 16

100-51230-192X7

MAILED 2
MAR 10 1953
COMM-FBI

APR 8 1953

79 MAY 5 - 1953

POWELL AND HIS STINKERS

I enclose a clipping from NY Times Feb 25, 1953 -- Looked over this list several times and I notice they dont pay any attention to a fool NIGGER - I dont know how crazy one must be, to be put under restraint, so I presume the authorities consider you harmless - with just fool ideas - Powwell suggested himself - I know the TOWN It is likely you assumed IF ELECTED Mayor of the Town of New York you could collect two pays - mayor and Congressman - that idea would not be passed up by you. Read the list carefully - NO POWELL - - As I say "No attention to a fools suggestion" - what ideas some Nuts get - Nigger For Mayor ----

Also see in Times 1 in 14 Puerto Ricans on Relief - From experience I know Puerto Ricans Dont want to be classed as NIGGERS and really HATE NIGGERS - but they are NIGGERS JUST THE SAME It dont say how many real NIGGERS are on relief ----

Try and get the Demos to nominate you for Mayor - The Repubs would win 20 to 1 even if they put up Charley McCarthy to run against you.

Absent some more from Congress - but you collect pay - 2/26/53

NY Times 2/26/53 Page 22 Col. 4.
Here I sent you a clipping of another NUT - another SLICK NIGGER - DIVINE - Perhaps HARMLESS - But still a fool like yourself - It is hard to get an understanding of his statements - but another NIGGER might understand it. JUST ANOTHER NIGGER who dont want any laws to affect a NIGGERS "RIGHTS" I enclose another statement by a citizen-- You know and I know "that if a Nigger is to be arrested for any offense A Mob of Niggers is ready to pry that Nigger loose - the healthy use of a club on the heads of those Niggers is the correct remedy - I KNOW THE NIGGERS - Batter their brains out - if they have any. You are the same brand as 98% of the Harlem Niggers - No Laws to Affect Niggers. Every Nigger carries a switch knife or other weapon ready for use - and it would not surprise me if one was found on your person. You are a sucker-but a Nigger 100% - what a "Town" we would have with NIGGER POWELL AS MAYOR ---- JOKE

On the T.V. and other places - but not in Congress for which he is drawing pay. Too busy looking for benefits for Niggers.
A Minister? Joke
A Congressman? Joke #2
For Mayor? Joke #3
For the Nut Farm - No Joke -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/21/82 BY SP3 Clapude
SP6 Bjapude 10/1/84

100-51230-192X7

It is really funny to read what ideas some Niggers get——
What a Calamity - IF it could happen ——
NIGGER Mayor - NIGGER Police Comm - NIGGER D.A.
NIGGER COMM. in Every Department -
and Powell the Big SHOT -
Pardon - that last WORM is spelled wrong.

COPY

POWELL AND HIS STINKERS

You do give a very fair example of what ignorant crap can go to Washington, D. C. as a Congressman, expecially when he comes from a nigger "town" like Harlem. Thats all Powell represents My Town, ignorance par excellence. Powell spoke as though he owned it. My town he does, along with the filth and stink even before consolidation, Manhattan was New York City, not a town. Powell will probably learn that before he dies, I repeat "probably."

Powell is just like his followers, only a little slicker and he can see their faults so he fixes himself up (by promises) for Congress. He is so "important" in Washington, D. C. the government could save money be declaring that seat vacant, for all the good it is.

THE SUPERIOR RACE OF STINKERS

Doesn't that nigger look intelligent, a beauty. Powell like all niggers don't want any laws to interfere with Niggers, whips and rope will be the answer.

THE SCUM OF THE EARTH, UNLESS, IGNORANT, STINK AND FILTH THERE YOU HAVE THE NIGGER.

New York Times 2/23/53 Page 1 tells of the large number of Puerto Ricans that came to the "town" of New York and to Harlem. I have had a few Puerto Ricans on jobs and they don't want to be niggers and really hate the nigger, but they have to live as the niggers. They do have a better brain than the Harlem niggers and really seek education, I found that out. The niggers are 100% for one purpose to get something easily and for nothing. Every nigger is a potential thief you know thats true Powell. You yourself don't mind being a bit off shade, you accept money you know don't belong to you. Yes you say others do the same, no excuse and Powell supposed to be a minister, he is just a nigger, all the same.

What a lousy bunch that wants to mingle with whites and be classed their equal or better.

INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/21/82 BY SP3-Elefante
SP6-Elefante 10/1/87

100-51230-192X7

One out of twenty here are Puerto Ricans, they disclaim it, but they are niggers. That bunch plus regular niggers a problem, who is to support them? Tougher times ahead for the niggers. The Korean war makes work that will be over perhaps early 1954, what then for the niggers? Relief? The "Town" of New York has no money now. Whites surely will get the preference when war work slackens. Powell thinks the niggers should be preferred not a chance, as I told you several times tell the niggers to save some money now.. They will need it later on, most niggers spend all they get as they get it or gamble it away. I know niggers 30 years experience with nigger help taught me, niggers are a no good lot. Well well well, Powell the nigger from Harlem says he is available for Mayor for the "Town" of New York, what a laugh. Do run on the Demo's ticket and the Republicans would win 20-1. Boy that Powell has ideas, Whites to turn over New York City to the niggers that's todays best laugh. I know the "Town" (Harlem) Powell what lofty ideas some niggers do get, not at session of Congress 2/23/53.

Having read some of your writings I was sure you was not right in your upper story and this idea of yours to run for Mayor of New York City surely proves you are just Nuts. But you are fool enough to think white people would vote for you the majority of the niggers would. The Demo's would not think to nominate you, they are not as crazy as you are, just an imbecile forecast. You are not running for mayor of New York City. Am sending this to Washington, D. C. in case you might be present.

1.

TRUE COPY

POWELL AND HIS STINKERS

Another of Powell illustrious speeches - N. Y. Times 2-20-53. "Every day he is in office is a disgrace to NY town and to the country" - Dont you know New York is a city - and has been for some time - or I say not understand you - Where is your home -

Boy - we do have some things in Congress - Why dont you learn to keep quiet - except to the Harlem Niggers - they are ignorant too - inflame the residents of Harlem?? They are always inflamed - they dont want laws - The club must be used on that rubbish - Plenty and often - Your yourself dont believe in any laws for niggers - AND YOU KNOW THAT IS TRUE -

Some classy nigger - Why not - Collecting from the Government "Present or absent" plus a little revenue as "Minister". Got your picture in N. Y. Times - from the looks of your picture it seems mighty suspicious - looks like some white fellow got in for a few innings some place along the line - you are not as black as most of your stinkers - and I guess you are mighty proud of the white streak - Here is a problem for your faithful to try and solve -

HOW DUMB CAN A NIGGER BE?

FBI - HQ
RECEIVED
8:45 AM
MAR 23 1953
INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/21/82 BY SP3-Clefside
SP6 Clefside 10/1/87

~~62-11[illegible]5X~~

100-51230-192X7

[redacted] b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/22/82 BY SP3 [illegible]
SPO-Byfurde 1986/87

March 6, 1953

Honorable Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Congressman:

I wish to acknowledge your letter of February 27, 1953, with its enclosures.

The contents of the three anonymous letters which were contained in envelopes postmarked Scotch Plains, New Jersey, and which you believe originated from the same source, have been made available to the Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Criminal Division, Department of Justice, for a determination as to whether a violation exists over which this Bureau has jurisdiction or whether it is a matter for referral to Postal authorities. As soon as a reply is received from the Department, you will be advised.

With reference to the communication from [redacted] one copy of this letter has been forwarded to our Law [redacted] Division for investigative attention. b7C

The enclosures which you submitted are being retained for possible future reference.

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

[redacted] b7C

[redacted] b7C

[redacted] b7C

[redacted] b7C

Tolson
Ladd
Nichols
Belmont
Clegg
Glavin
Harbo
Rosen
Tracy
Laughlin
Mohr
Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Holloman
Gandy

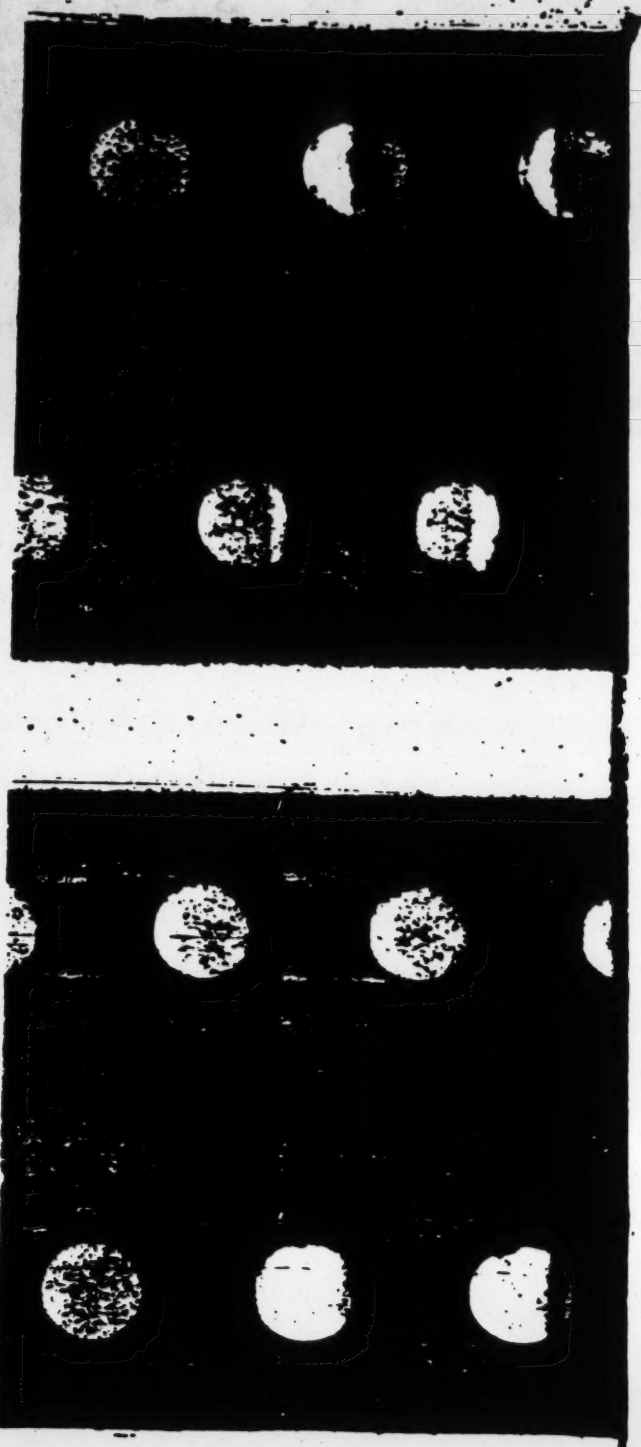
2 DEC 24 1973

MAILED 2
MAR 10 1953
COMM-FBI

RECORDED - 16 100-51230 [illegible]
62-19053-5

12 APR 9 1953

63 MAY 7 1953



DO-6

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUST[redacted]

b7c

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Jones
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Mr. Holloman
Mr. Sizoo
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

From Cong. Adam Clayton Powell.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/22/82 BY SP3 elp/ade
SP6-Brian/ade 10/1/87

House of Representatives U.S.
PUBLIC DOCUMENT
FREE

March 10, 1953

Adam Clayton Powell

M. C.

b7c

Forwarded to you in accordance with my promise to you.

100-51280-A2X9

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

RECORDED - 100 62-[redacted]

NEW YORK, N. Y.

MAR 20 1953

Copy original [redacted] b7c

Left AAG 3/13/53

62-99053

b7c

Send to [redacted]

EXPEDITE PROCE[redacted]

b7c

COPY

POWELL AND HIS STINKERS

PRESIDENT EISENHOWER HASNT FOUND A NIGGER TO DATE SUITABLE OR WITH BRAINS ENOUGH FOR ANY JOB - ANY WONDER? NONE WHATEVER-WHEN YOU SEE AND HEAR OF THE FOOLS THAT ACT FOR THE NIGGERS-WE HEAR OF A FOOL IN HARLEM WHO THINKS THE PEOPLE OF NEW YORK CITY WOULD THINK OF HAVING A NIGGER FOR MAYOR-INSANE IDEA-ANOTHER LEADER-DEVINE IS GOD-JUST AS SILLY AS POWELL, WHOM DEVINE BEAT TO THE POST-POWELL HAS SIMILAR IDEAS-THE FOOL NIGGER OVER ON LONG ISLAND WHO WROTE THE N.Y.TIMES - IT WASNT SO - THAT THERE WAS A SCARCITY OF CHILDREN FOR ADOPTION - NOT AS LONG AS THERE REMAINED A NUMBER OF COLORED CHILDREN SEEKING ADOPTION - WHERE ARE THE NIGGERS? THAT FOOL NIGGER WANTS WHITE PEOPLE TO ADOPT THEM AND BRING THEM UP AS THEIR OWN-JUST HOW SILLY AND FOOLISH CAN NIGGERS GET TO BE-THEY SURELY DO NOT HAVE ANY BRAINS - POWELL DID NOT EVEN KNOW NEW YORK WAS A CITY - HE THOUGHT IT STILL A TOWN - REFER YOU TO WEBSTER-LEARN WHAT A TOWN IS, AND WHAT A CITY IS - "I KNOW MY TOWN" THE FILTH IN HARLEM YARDS IS STILL GOING ON - NIGGERS CANT LIVE WITHOUT FILTH -

---

NOBODY WANTS A STINKING NIGGER AROUND - BIG STINK - BIG IDEAS - BUT NO BRAINS

AWFUL WHAT CRAP CAN GET IN CONGRESS - BUT IT IS COMFORTING TO KNOW POWELL IS A BLANK IN WASH. D.C. ANYTHING CAN BE A PREACHER TO NIGGERS - I KNOW MY TOWN (HARLEM NIGGERS)

DONT EMPLOY ANY NIGGER FOR ANY JOB -
THEY DEPEND ON THE WHITE PEOPLE FOR A LIVING -
TO DEPEND ON THEMSELVES WOULD CAUSE THEM TO STARVE
NIGGERS DONT TRUST EACH OTHER -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/22/82 BY SP3 Clyde
SP6 Byde 10/1/87

100-51220-1929

March 13, 1953

Assistant Attorney General
Warren Olney III

Director, FBI

UNKNOWN SUBJECT;
ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR.
VICTIM
INFORMATION CONCERNING
EXTORTION

There are attached hereto two copies of an anonymous communication forwarded to Congressman Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. The letter was received through the United States mails by the Congressman in Washington, D. C. and bears the postmark of Scotch Plains, New Jersey. The date of mailing is obliterated.

You are requested to consider this communication together with the four similar ones submitted to you by my memoranda of March 6, and March 10, 1953, wherein inquiry was made as to whether a violation existed within this Bureau's jurisdiction or whether it was a matter for referral to postal authorities.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/22/82 BY SP3-Cl/sde
SP6 Byr/sde

FBI
RECEIVED HEADQUARTERS ROOM
MAR 16 9 27 AM '53
MAILED
MAR 16 1953
COMM-FBI

b7c

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Gearty
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Mr. Holloman
Mr. Sizoo
Miss Gandy

Adam Clayton Powell

House of Representatives U.S.
PUBLIC DOCUMENT
FREE

March 19, 1953

Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.

M. C.

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation

The attached is being forwarded in accordance with my promise to you.

NEW YORK, N. Y.

18

18 Encls to PO Dept

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/22/82 BY SP3-Clemente
SP6-Byrne/mde 10/1/87

b7c

6

EX. - 107

100-51230-1924

RECORDED - 46

APR 7 1953

317

APR 13 1953

Office Memorandum · UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

FROM : Warren Olney III, Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division

SUBJECT: Unknown Subject;
Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., Victim
Information concerning extortion.

b7C

Reference is made to your memoranda dated March 6 and 10, 1953, concerning the above subject.

From our examination of the copies of the communications sent through the United States mails to Congressman Powell, which you attached to your memoranda, we are of the opinion that they are not threatening communications prohibited to be deposited in the mails under section 876 of Title 18, U.S.C., and are not, therefore, within the Bureau's investigative jurisdiction.

The matter should be referred to the postal authorities.

b7C

Mrs. Parsons
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carl
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Mr. Holloman
Mr. Gandy
Miss Gandy

100-51230-192X11

COPIES DESTROYED
153 JUL 6 1960

7 APR 21 1953

Office Memorandum · UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

FROM : Warren Olney III, Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division

SUBJECT: Unknown Subject;
Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., Victim,
Information Concerning Extortion,

Reference is made to your memorandum dated March 13, 1953, concerning the above subject.

The attachments to your memorandum seem to be in the same category as the communications to Congressman Powell which you submitted with your memoranda of March 6 and 10, and we do not believe they were mailed in violation of 18 U.S.C. 876. Since there is no apparent violation within the investigative jurisdiction of your Bureau the matter should be referred to the postal authorities.

Memo Rosenthall
Ltr to Powell
& USPO Encls
3/27/53

COPIES DESTROYED
153 JUL 6 1960

100-51230-192X12

APR 21 1953

March 31, 1953

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/22/81 BY SP3-Clerk
SP6-Byrne 10/1/87

Honorable Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Congressman:

In my letter to you of March 6, 1953, I advised that the contents of the three anonymous letters, contained in envelopes postmarked "Scotch Plains, N.J.," and which you believed originated from the same source, would be presented to the Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Criminal Division, Department of Justice, for a determination as to whether a violation existed over which this Bureau has jurisdiction, or whether it was a matter for referral to postal authorities.

The Department has advised, after examination of copies of the communications, that there was not a violation within the investigative jurisdiction of this Bureau and that the matter should be referred to the postal authorities.

I am, therefore, taking the liberty of forwarding the originals of twenty three letters postmarked "Scotch Plains, N.J.," to Mr. D. M. Stephens, Chief Post Office Inspector, Post Office Department, Washington 25, D. C. for further attention.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

100-51230-183

RECORDED - 44

APR 2 1953

62-99053

130

MAILED 3
APR - 1 1953
COMM-FBI

Nichols
Belmont
Clegg
Glavin
Harbo
Rosen
Tracy
Laughlin
Mohr
Winterrowd
Tele. Rm.
Holloman
Gandy

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Ladd

FROM : Mr. Rosen

DATE: March 31, 1953

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 7/22/87 BY SP3 Clf/mdc SAC-Byfunde 10/1/87

b7C

Tolson
Ladd
Nichols
Belmont
Clegg
Glavin
Harbo
Rosen
Tracy
Gurnea
Mohr
Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Holloman
Sizoo
Miss Gandy

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT;
ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR.
VICTIM
INFORMATION CONCERNING
EXTORTION

Congressman Powell, by letter dated February 27, 1953, forwarded to the Bureau 3 anonymous letters with envelopes postmarked "Scotch Plains, N.J." which had been received by him. Congressman Powell subsequently forwarded to the Bureau 20 similar anonymous letters with envelopes postmarked "Scotch Plains, N.J." A review of the contents of the letters failed to indicate any threat, though derogatory and insulting in character.

Congressman Powell's letter was acknowledged on March 6, 1953, and on the same date copies of the 3 letters first submitted were forwarded to the Department for determination as to whether a violation existed within the Bureau's jurisdiction. On March 10, and March 13, single letters submitted by Powell were forwarded. *

By memoranda dated March 20, and March 24, the Department advised that the letters were not within the investigative jurisdictio of the Bureau, and should be referred to the postal authorities for action.

ACTION:

The attached letter to Congressman Powell, advising of the Department's opinion and the fact we are furnishing the 23 letters submitted by him to the Post Office Department, should be forwarded. Memorandum to the Post Office Inspector should also be forwarded.

* Total of 23 letters received by the Bureau from Congressman Powell.

Attachment

[redacted] b7C

RECORDED - 56

100-51230 - 42X14 b7C

APR 6 1953

23

100-51230-192 X14

RECORDED - 58 62-99053-6

[redacted]
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/22/82 BY SP5 [illegible]
SPD-82 [illegible] 10/1/82

Date: March 31, 1953

To: Mr. D. M. Stephens
Chief Post Office Inspector
Post Office Department
Washington 25, D. C.

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: Unknown Subject;
Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.
Victim
Information Concerning
Extortion

Attached hereto you will find 23 anonymous original letters, with envelopes, postmarked "Scotch Plains, N. J." which were received from Congressman Powell. Copies of the contents of representative copies were presented to the Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Criminal Division, Department of Justice, for opinion.

Advice was received that the matter did not constitute a violation within the jurisdiction of this Bureau, and that the matter should be referred to the postal authorities.

Accordingly, the originals of the letters with envelopes are being forwarded to you for further action. Congressman Powell is being advised of this referral.

b7C

Attachment

MAILED 6
APR 1 - 1953
COMM-FBI

b7C

Letters received by Bureau from Congressman Powell and forwarded to Post Office Inspector, all postmarked "Scotch Plains, NJ" and dated as follows:

1. 1/26/53
2. 1/6/53 (not entirely legible)
3. 1/2/53 " " "
4. 12/2[illegible]/52 " " "
5. 1953 (Text refers to "Today 12/17/52")
6. 12/11/52

b7C

Michols
Belmont
Clegg
Glavin
Harbo
Rosen
Tracy
Laughlin
Mohr
Winterrowd
Tele. Rm.
Holloman
Gandy

APR 13 1953

62-99053

1. 11/25/52
2. 11/20/52
3. 11/22/52
10. 1/15/53
11. Illegible (Encl. consisting of newsclipping dated "Lonnside, N.J. 1/6,")
12. 11/8/52
13. 11/8/52 (2nd letter)
14. 11/10/52
15. 12/4/52
16. 11/14/52
17. 2/3/53
18. 3/17/53
19. 3/Illegible/53
20. 2/24/53 (Not entirely leg.)
21. 2/20/53
22. Illegible inclosing "a clipping from N.Y. Times 2/25/53"
23. Illegible letter beginning "Powell and His Stinkers President Eisenhower hasn't found ....."

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Gandlin _____
Mohr _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Rm. _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____
_____

MAJORITY MEMBERS:
[redacted]
b7C

EIGHTY-THIRD CONGRESS

Committee on Education and Labor

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Congress of the United States

Washington 25, D. C.

MINORITY MEMBERS:
[redacted]
GRAHAM A. BARDEN, N. C.
ADRIANCE B. KELLEY, PA.
ADAM C. POWELL, JR., N. Y.
WINDATE H. LUCAS, TEX.
CLEVELAND M. BAILEY, W. VA.
CARL D. PERKINS, KY.
CHARLES R. HOWELL, N. J.
EDY W. WEIR, MICH.
EARL ELLIOTT, ALA.
FRED M. LANDRUM, GA.
ARK METCALF, MONT.
[redacted]
JOHN S. GRAHAM,
CHIEF CLERK
EDWARD A. MC CABE,
GENERAL COUNSEL
JACK HIGHLAND,
ASST. GENERAL COUNSEL
[redacted]
CHIEF INVESTIGATOR
[redacted]
CLERK

G.I.R.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Gearty
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Mr. Holloman
Mr. Sizoo
Miss Gandy

April 17, 1953

Dear Sir:

Thanks for your kind letter advising me of the referral of the anonymous letters which I have been receiving to the Post Office Department.

I have already heard from the Chief Post Office Inspector and am informed that will hear further following their investigation.

Very truly yours,

ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR.

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/22/87 BY SP3 Cle/md
SP6-Bja/md 10/1/87
100-51230-192X15

59 MAY 4 1953

RECORDED
APR 24 1953

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : THE DIRECTOR

FROM : D. M. Ladd

DATE: July 3, 1953

SUBJECT: CONGRESSMAN ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR., New York

Mr. Warren Olney of the Department called and in our absence was referred to me. He asked if he could come to my office.

Upon arrival he advised that he had a complaint indicating that Congressman Clayton Powell had

Mr. Olney stated he could initiate an investigation with reference to the so-called kickback, which he felt would be very difficult to prove, in view of the fact that allegedly not cooperative; further, he indicated that Congressman Powell has recently made several attacks against the Attorney General and an investigation by the Department would be attacked by him as being political in motive. He, therefore, thought it would be much easier to make an income tax case and to refer the matter to the Internal Revenue as an income tax matter. He wanted, however, to mention this to the Bureau.

I told him that whichever he did was agreeable; that if he thought it more desirable to proceed on the income tax angle the Bureau would not object.

He stated he thought it would be much easier to make an income tax case and that he would refer it to the Internal Revenue Bureau and if necessary to go into the question of an alleged kickback he would again contact the Bureau, but unless we heard from him he would proceed on the basis of an income tax case.

DML

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 7/22/82 BY SP3 Clf/mde
SP6 Rpt/mde 10/1/87

100-512380-192XX6

RECORDED-14

13 JUL 15 1953

AIR-TEL

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

NEW YORK, 10/9/53

Transmit the following Teletype message to: BUREAU

[redacted] DASH ADAM CLAYTON POWELL DASH VICTIM; EXTORTION. [redacted] SECRETARY TO U.S. CONGRESSMAN ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, ADVISED THAT MR. POWELL RECEIVED THROUGH THE MAIL A GREETING FOLDING TYPE CARD FROM [redacted] HOTEL PIERRE, ROOM [redacted] NYC, CONTAINING THE FOLLOWING MESSAGES: "DIXIE FOREVER", "DOWN WITH NIGGERS", "YOU HYPOCRITE", AND OTHER MESSAGES OBSCENE IN THEIR CONTENT. THE MESSAGES IN NO WAY CONTAINED THREATS AGAINST THE VICTIM, MR. POWELL. AUSA, SILVIO MOLLO, SDNY, WAS APPRAISED OF THE FACTS AND DECLINED PROSECUTION.

3-BUREAU (RM)

D-36
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Harbo
Mr. P
Mr. Tr
Mr. G
Mr. M
Mr. Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Mr. Holl
Miss

BOARDMAN

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 7/22/92 BY SP3-Clerk SP6-Br/Clerk 10/1/87

100-51230-192X17

INDEXED-

RECORDED

OCT 10 1953

EX-123

[redacted] (#14)

7-Mow

Approved: LVB Sent M Per

acted upon 10/13/53 furnish wfo USPOInsp

10-12-53 AIRTEL

SAC NEW YORK (MAT

[redacted] ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR., WILLFUL. REBAIRTEL

OCTOBER 9, 1953. REFER MATTER TO U.S. P.O. INSPECTORS IN VIEW OF OBSCENITY.

b7C

HOOVER

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/22/82 BY SP3-Clayton
SP6-Byrne/mrk 10/1/82 MR

[redacted] b7C

100-512304-1792X18

RECORDED-88 12 2205 -16

OCT 9 1953

EX-115

Tolson
Ladd
Nichols
Belmont
Clegg
Glavin
Ahrens
Boone
Tracy
Carroll
Fehr
Rosen
Sullivan
Tamm
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holloman
Gandy

FBI

COMM — FBI
OCT 12 1953
MAILED 27

OCT 13 11 35 AM '53

NOV 5 1953

b7C

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
NEW YORK	10/28/53	10/9,12,13,14/53	[redacted] b7C

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
b7C ADAM CLAYTON POWELL - VICTIM	EXTORTION

RETAINED
Not to be destroyed
DATE 7/22/82 BY [redacted]

8-1
10-1

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

[redacted] Secretary to US Congressman ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, advised the victim received a letter through the mail, the contents of which is obscene name calling of the victim by the subject, [redacted] AUSA, SDNY, SILVIO MOLLO declined prosecution and advised that the matter be reported to the Postal Inspector. Postal Inspectors advised by SA [redacted] b7C

G. IVR. -3

- C -

DETAILS: This case is predicated upon a complaint received telephonically by SA [redacted] from [redacted] Secretary to United States Congressman ADAM CLAYTON POWELL on October 9, 1953, who stated that the victim received through the mail a letter from the subject [redacted] New York City.

The contents of the letter was in effect obscene name calling on the part of the subject against the victim. No threats of violence against the victim could be determined from a reading of the letter.

Assistant United States Attorney, SILVIO MOLLO, Southern District of New York, was appraised of the facts on October 9, 1953 and declined prosecution and advised that the matter be referred to the Post Office Inspectors.

SA [redacted] on October 12, 1953, advised by letter, [redacted] Postal Inspector in Charge, General Post Office, 33rd Street and 8th Avenue, New York City, of the nature of the complaint.

- C -

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	IVR SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	100-51230-192X19 DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	INDEXED
		62 - 1702 - 12	RECORDED-51

COPIES OF THIS REPORT
3 - Bureau
1 - USA, SDNY
1 - New York (9-1951)

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153 JUL 6 1960

1 - 30
29 OCT

EX-126

C... 5 1953

PROPERTY OF FBI—THIS CONFIDENTIAL REPORT AND ITS CONTENTS ARE LOA... THE FBI AND ARE NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED OUTSIDE OF AGENCY TO WHICH LOANED.

E92

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

REFERENCES: New York airtel to Bureau, 10/9/53.
Bureau airtel to New York, 10/12/53.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI DATE: 4/14/54

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR.

Re telephone call to Bureau, April 14, 1954.

Transmitted herewith for appropriate handling and acknowledgment is a copy of a letter received from ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR., Congressman from the 22nd District of New York, along with a copy of my reply to Congressman POWELL.

The files of the New York Division are negative concerning the publication mentioned in the attached communication.

Enc. 2

b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/22/87 BY SP6-Clyde
SP6-Clyde to 11/87

RECORDED-62 100-51230-192X20

INDEXED-62

17 APR 15 1954

EX-10

Ltr to NY
4-19-54

ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR.
22nd District, New York

New York Address:
132 West 138th Street

Committee on Education
and Labor

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D. C.

April 12
1954

Federal Bureau of Investigation
290 Broadway
New York, New York

Gentlemen:

I have been receiving anonymously a publication from Paris, France called Le Droit de Vivre. Can you investigate and find out for me if this is some type of communist publication.

Your cooperation in this matter will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

/s/

Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.

:dmm

New York Office

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/22/82 BY SP3 Elehardt
SP6-Bjf/mde 10/1/87

C O P Y

100-51230-192X20

62-99053-17

ENCLOSURE

290 Broadway
New York 7, N. Y.

April 14, 1954

The Honorable Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.
132 West 138th Street
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter of April 12, 1954, in which you inquired concerning a publication called Le Droit de Vivre.

Your request has been referred to Bureau Headquarters in Washington, D. C.

Very truly yours,

JAMES J. KELLY,
Special Agent in Charge

[redacted] b7C

1 - Bureau

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/22/82 BY SP3 Clelande
SP6-Sig/ade 10/1/87

100-51230-192X20
~~62-99853-17~~

ENCLOSURE

SAC, New York 100-51230-192X20 April 19, 1954

Director, FBI 62-99053-77

RECORDED-97

b7C

JOHN CLIFTON POWELL, JR.

Bearlet 4-14-54 transmitting a copy of a letter to the New York Office from the above-captioned individual dated 4-12-54 requesting information on a French newspaper "Le Droit de Vivre".

For your information, the Bureau has not investigated this publication or the subject matter of Congressman Powell's inquiry.

No good point is served in referring matters of this nature to the Bureau for handling when it is known to the New York Office beforehand even though the Bureau would have information it could not be made available to the Congressman in view of the confidential nature of FBI files.

The Bureau has not acknowledged the Congressman's letter to you, and you should write him a brief note immediately pointing out that the subject matter of his inquiry has not been investigated by this Bureau, and you are, therefore, unable to be of assistance to him.

cc [redacted]
cc
cc

b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 7/22/82 BY SP6 Blythe 5/1/87

NOTE: Bufiles contain no identifiable reference to "Le Droit de-Vivre" which liberally translated means "the right to live" or "the law of life." We have never investigated the paper or its personnel. According to the Library of Congress, this is a monthly publication published at 40 Rue de Paradis, Paris, France political director of which is Bernard le Dache. Translation Section of the FBI Laboratory has never heard of this publication

Tolson
Ladd
Nichols
Belmont
Clegg
Glavin
Harbo
Rosen
Tracy
Laughlin
Mohr
Vinterrowd
Tele. Rm.
Holloman
Gandy

[redacted] b7C

COMM - FBI
APR 22 1954
MAILED 28

APR 21 5 04 PM
U.S. DEPT OF JUSTICE
RECEIVED READING ROOM
FBI

[redacted] b7C

62 MAY 5 1954

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: MAY 2 8 1954

FROM : SAC, New York (100-42735)

SUBJECT: PEOPLE'S VOICE
IS - C

THUMBNAIL SKETCH

Re SAC letter 54-22 dated 5/27/54. Thumbnail sketch submitted herewith.

Among publications which the Committee found "to be Communist initiated and controlled, or so strongly influenced as to be in the Stalin solar system" (California Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, 1948, page 225; Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications dated May 14, 1951).

[redacted] b7C

[redacted] connected in [redacted] by SA [redacted] b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/22/82 BY SP6 Bile/nde
SP6 Bile/nde 10/1/87

1 - NY 100-90311 (THUMBNAIL SKETCH)

100-51230-192
100-51230-192
100-12161-49

RECORDED - 115

[redacted] b7C

B JUN 1 1954

[redacted] b7C

55 JUL 6 1954

MINORITY MEMBERS:

GRAHAM A. BARDEN, N. C.
AUGUSTINE B. KELLEY, PA.
ADAM C. POWELL, JR., N. Y.
WINGATE H. LUCAS, TEX.
CLEVELAND M. BAILEY, W. VA.
EARL D. PERKINS, KY.
CHARLES E. HOWELL, N. J.
ROY W. ERIN, MINN.
EARL ELLIOTT, ALA.
PHIL M. LANDRUM, GA.
LEE METCALF, MONT.
HOWARD S. MILLER, KANS.

EIGHTY-THIRD CONGRESS

Committee on Education and Labor

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Congress of the United States

Washington 25, D. C.

COMMITTEE STAFF

JOHN G. GRAHAM, CHIEF CLERK
FRED G. HUSSEY, MINORITY CLERK
EDWARD A. McCABE, GENERAL COUNSEL
RUSSELL C. DERRICKSON, CHIEF INVESTIGATOR
JACK HIGHLAND, ASST. GENERAL COUNSEL
BEN H. JENSEN, INVESTIGATOR

[redacted]

June 2, 1954

b7C

[redacted]

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Boardman
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Sizoo
Mr. Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Mr. Holloman

Gentlemen:

I have received a book entitled, Eyewitness In Indo-China by Jospeh B. Starobin, and published in New York by Cameron & Kahn.

Kindly forward any information which you have on this publication and/or the publishers.

Your cooperation is appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.
Member of Congress

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/22/82 BY SP3-Cle/mde
SP6-Cle/mde 10/1/87

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

[redacted]

b7C

[redacted]

EXP. PROC.

JUN -3 1954

RECORDED - 154
INDEXED - 154

100-51230 - 193

EX-129

10 JUN 9 1954

[redacted]

b7C

CONFIDENTIAL

June 2, 1954

100-5/230-193

RECORDED - 154
EX-129

Classified by SP6-Bc/Sude
Declassify on: OADR 10/1/87

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

b7c

Honorable Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Congressman:

Your letter dated June 2, 1954, has been received.

In the absence of specific authority from the Attorney General, information appearing in the files of this Bureau is maintained as confidential. For that reason, I am precluded from complying with your request for data concerning the matters to which you refer.

I am sure you will understand the necessity for this regulation as well as my position in this matter.

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

RECEIVED READING ROOM
JUN 7 11 35 AM '54
F B I

Class. & Ext. SP3-Sude 1/22/82
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
Date of Review 7/22/92

NOTE ON YELLOW ONLY:

b7c
b7D
b1

(100-51287)

b7c
b7D

(100-402914)

(Please see next page)

Nichols
Gandy
Harbo
Rosen
Tamm
Tracy
Mohr
Winterrowd
Tele. Room

COMM - FBI
JUN 7 9054

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

Powell, the correspondent, has not been the subject of a Bureau investigation; however, our files reflect he has been affiliated with numerous front organizations many of which have been cited by the Attorney General. He [redacted] the confidential nature of our files.

Use of black letterhead, salutation and complimentary close - per reading room.

CONFIDENTIAL

b7C

Director, FBI

6/28/55

SAC, New York (100-[redacted])

PEOPLE'S VOICE

IS-C

THUMBNAIL SKETCH

Re NY letr to the Director, 5/26/55, captioned as above.

An amended thumbnail sketch is being submitted herewith.

"People's Voice" has been described on page 225 in the Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications dated May 14, 1951.

b7D

[redacted]

b7C
b7D

(Concealed by request).

Careful consideration has been given to sources concealed and T symbols were utilized only where absolutely necessary.

R.M.

1 - NY 100-90311 (THUMBNAIL SKETCH)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 7/22/82 BY SP3-Clifford

100-51230-[redacted]

[redacted]-10124

NOT RECORDED
44 JUN 27 1955

SP6-Lia/made 10/1/87

b7C

[redacted]

REGISTERED

174

UNITED • VERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, NY (100-22964)

SUBJECT: CONGRESSMAN ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR.
INFORMATION CONCERNING

28, 1954

During the course of the investigation entitled, [redacted] FHAM - BRIBERY," (Buffile [redacted] records were reviewed by an agent of this office.

[redacted]

No investigation is contemplated in this matter and it is being forwarded for the Bureau's information only.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 7/22/82 BY SP3 Delude 10/1/87

RECORDED - 65 100-[redacted]-230-194

EX-123

RECEIVED

JAN 22 1954

FBI

JAN 22 1954

FBI

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Boardman
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Mr. Holloman
Miss Gandy

Honorable Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Congressman:

This will acknowledge your letter of [illegible], together with your correspondence file relating to a book entitled Eyewitness in Indo-China. As requested [illegible] enclosures are returned herewith.

This Department has no authority to characterize individuals. Its only authority in this respect is the designation of organizations deemed to come within the purview of Executive Order No. 10450 relating to the Federal employee security program. The publishing house of Cameron & Kahn has not been designated pursuant to that program.

For your information I am enclosing a consolidated list of all the organizations which have been designated in this connection.

If I can be of assistance to you in any other matter, please do not hesitate to communicate with me.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM P. ROGERS

William P. Rogers
Deputy Attorney General

b7c

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
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Sub-Bio made 10/1/87

100-51230-194X

RECORDED - 28

9 JUL 2 1954

FBI

b7c

68 JUL 19 1954

COPY

Committee on Education and Labor
House of Representatives
Congress of the United States
Washington 25, D. C.

June 10, 1954

Dear Sir:

You will please find enclosed the complete correspondence file on an inquiry which I recently directed to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Kindly inform me if the author or publishing house in question is on the Attorney General's subversive list. I would also appreciate return of this correspondence.

Your cooperation is appreciated.

Very truly yours,

/s/ A. C. Powell, Jr.

Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.
Member of Congress

Office of the Deputy Attorney General
U. S. Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

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SP6-Bja/rude 10/1/87

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~~62-94853-17~~

COPY

United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation

[redacted]

June 7, 1954

Honorable Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Congressman:

Your letter dated June 2, 1954, has been received.

In the absence of specific authority from the Attorney General, information appearing in the files of this Bureau is maintained as confidential. For that reason, I am precluded from complying with your request for data concerning the matters to which you refer.

I am sure you will understand the necessity for this regulation as well as my position in this matter.

Very truly yours,

/s/ J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 7/22/82 BY SP3-Cla/mde
SP6-Bpe/mde 10/1/87

100-51230-194X

ENCLOSURE

COPY

June 2, 1954

Gentlemen:

I have received a book entitled, Eyewitness In Indo-China by Joseph R. Starobin, and published in New York by Cameron & Kahn.

Kindly forward any information which you have on this publication and/or the publishers.

Your cooperation is appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.
Member of Congress

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/22/82 BY SP3-PLC/mde
SP6-Gja/mde 10/1/87

100-51230-194X

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: Mr. Tolson DATE: July 8, 1954

FROM: L. B. Nichols

SUBJECT:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 7/7/82 BY SP2-Bayside SP6-Bayside 10/1/87

Tolson, Boardman, Nichols, Belmont, Mason, Parsons, Tracy, Gurnea, Harbo, Rosen, Holloman, Miss Gandy

The Keating report which was released to the press on July 6th on page 22 and 23 carries a minority report of Congressman E. L. Forrester (D-Georgia) wherein he takes exceptions to the report on the agreement entered into between Monaghan and McInerney. On page 23 Forrester makes reference to me by referring to a statement by a member of the House of Representatives: "After 2 months of investigation, Mr. Lewis Nichols called me up and said, 'For the first time in the history of the New York State, we feel we have got a civil-rights case and we are going to call the case before the Federal grand jury'." This statement was made by Congressman Adam Clayton Powell of New York when he appeared before the Keating Subcommittee on February 19, 1953. I am attaching a transcript of the testimony. Powell mentioned my name several times in his testimony. On page 6, for example, he stated that "there should be called before this committee, therefore, Mr. Lewis Nichols who is one of J. Edgar Hoover's assistants who knows this whole case (he is referring to the John Derrick civil right case in New York). He will be able to show you that the FBI men working in New York City on complaints made by citizens of New York of violations of civil rights were not allowed to question any of the policemen involved in any of the cases at all as the result of this conference which was held with the Police Commissioner of New York."

b7C

File summary re [redacted] attached.

On page 7 after discussing the Derrick case and conferences with the Department Congressman Powell states, "After two months of investigation, Mr. Lewis Nichols called me up and said, 'For the first time in the history of New York State we feel we have got a civil rights case and we are going to call the case before the Federal grand jury'." On page 9 Congressman Powell states, "I charge that even here again the Commissioner of Police of New York City was in error, dangerous and vicious in the report that he sent to Mr. Lewis Nichols, to Mr. Hoover at the FBI." I, of course, received no report from Monaghan and Powell has no basis for this statement.

b7C

100-51230-4 [redacted]

Congressman Forrester then states in his minority report that it was more than strange that the Keating Committee made no investigation whatsoever as to "that charge against Mr. Nichols" although it was stated that Nichols had that conversation with that particular witness. He said, "It would seem that such

100-51230-4

NOT RECORDED

61 AUG 12 1954

46 AUG 18 1954

INITIALS OF ORIGINAL

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Tolson from L. B. Nichols

[redacted] have been allowed to die without investigation. If [redacted] that statement to a Member of Congress, which the [redacted] disputes, then Mr. Nichols should have been discharged from [redacted] ment, it being evident if he made such statement that he was [redacted] was bringing politics into his office." Forrester further [redacted] committee report reflects no investigation whatever and [redacted] made exonerating Mr. Nichols of such charge and no [redacted] upon Mr. Nichols by that subcommittee."

[redacted] make the statement attributed to me by Adam Clayton [redacted] rsations I had with Powell I was fully aware of his background, [redacted] possibilities of his quoting me and I, therefore, was [redacted]. The background on my contact with Powell is as follows:

[redacted] secretary called the Director's Office on the morning of [redacted] referred to [redacted] in my office. Congressman [redacted] the line and expressed a desire to talk to the Director and [redacted] ment to see the Director on February 27. [redacted] advised b7c
[redacted] representative would see Congressman Powell at 4:30 p.m. [redacted] was from Mississippi and in view of the [redacted] elected to see Powell rather than to permit [redacted] appointment and Powell outlined with some feeling the [redacted] 8 Negroes had been killed by New York Police. In not [redacted] a police officer removed or suspended. In each instance [redacted] the police. He then outlined the case of John Derrick [redacted] December 7, 1950. He pointed out he had been making an issue [redacted] He then furnished considerable fact and the information [redacted] painted a dark picture indeed for the New York Police Depart- [redacted] that we would take this matter up with the Department immediately.

A memorandum went to McInerney under date of February 27th. We were subsequently, by Department memorandum dated March 7, 1951, requested to make an investigation. In the meantime, after I returned to the Bureau and checked the files I ascertained that we had called to McInerney's attention under date of January 8, 1951, the mass meeting held in New York by the NAACP to protest the shooting of John Derrick. I, accordingly, called Powell on February 28, March 1 and March 2. In each instance I left my name. He returned my call on March 6th. I told him that we had already referred the facts to the Department

Memorandum for Mr. Tolson from L. B. Nichols

under date of January 8th; that we had referred the facts he had furnished me on February 27th to the Department. Powell assumed that the Department was studying the matter., On March 14 I called Powell. He returned my call on March 15. I reminded him of some of the information he had furnished me and told him we were depending upon him to secure certain information for us. I cautioned him against publicity. Powell stated he would try to get the information that night. In a memorandum of April 4, 1951, I reported that I had endeavored to contact Powell on numerous occasions to see if he had secured the information. I pointed out that I had called him again on the morning of April 4th and he was still out. I left my name. On April 12, 1951, I did talk to Powell, reminded him of the information he had promised to secure. He then stated that [redacted] b7D The Congressman stated the only way he knew whereby we could get the information was that we might receive an anonymous letter. I told him we could subpoena the men or do whatever was necessary. On May 21 my memorandum reported that Powell had been giving me the run-around; that I had tried to reach him on May 16, May 17 and that his secretary apologized and said she would let us know. In my memorandum of May 21 I recommended that if he does not produce the following day we then consider writing him.

He did not produce and under date of June 6 we wrote Powell referring to the information he had promised to get, his charges and expressed the hope that he would secure the information, which he did not do.

I did not make the statement attributed to me by Adam Clayton Powell and I do not like it being used by Congressman Forrester even if only in a minority report. I had a duty to perform which I did perform and I personally resent the inference which Forrester draws. At the time that Adam Clayton Powell made his statement on February 19th we, of course, were aware of it. We considered the source and it would have been inadvisable for me to have testified at that time and correct the record in view of the direct controversy which I had with Monaghan and Chief Inspector Rothengast in Rogers' Office shortly prior to the hearing. Furthermore, the New York Police Department by this time was suspect of [redacted] and it was with these thoughts in mind this statement by Powell was passed over. b7C

Memorandum for Mr. Tolson from L. B. Nichols

I don't know how much good could be accomplished by my seeing Forrester. I am inclined to the view that I should see him; that I should tell him that I did not make such a statement and that I did not appreciate his comments and that, of course, had the Committee called me and they knew where I was, I would have testified to such knowledge as I had. They did not call me and naturally I did not care to become embroiled in a public controversy with Adam Clayton Powell at that time as would be the case no doubt if he were in my shoes. I don't know that anything could be accomplished by going to Adam Clayton Powell at this late date.

[redacted] b7c

I agree

7-11

ok.

[redacted] b7c

Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 7/9/54

FROM : [redacted] SAC, NEW YORK (100-22864)

SUBJECT: [redacted] b7C
CONGRESSMAN ADAM CLAYTON POWELL JR.
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Remylet, 6/28/54.

Attached is a blind memo reflecting the results of an interview with [redacted] a subject in the case entitled [redacted] wa, FHAM - b7C BRIBERY", NY file [redacted] Bufile [redacted]

It may be noted that these interviews were conducted in the presence of [redacted]

No investigation is contemplated based on the contents of this memorandum.

Encs. (5)

1 - NY [redacted]

[redacted] b7C

[redacted] b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 7/22/82 BY SP3 Alpride SP6-Rja/ude 10/1/87

5 Encs. (1cc to Adm.) 3/14/54 Memo to Dep Atty Gen I sent to Condon, FHA I sent to Dep Atty Gen I sent retained as to Allen Memo to Dep Atty Gen re analysis Memo to Condon, FHA

[redacted] b7C

100-51230-19481

62-99053-6

RECORDED [illegible]

6 7-19 [redacted] b7C

Rev. 4-17-85)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

3 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7C b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

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FBI/DOJ

Mr. William P. Rogers
Deputy Attorney General

Director, FBI

RECORDED 22037 July 16 1954

62-90053-10

100-5-1230-1941X1

CONGRESSMAN ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR.
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING
(Investigative Division, Accounting and Fraud Section)

b7c

During investigation of the case captioned [redacted] Federal Housing Administration Matters, Bribery, our New York Office examined certain records maintained by [redacted] It is noted that copies of all reports prepared to date in the [redacted] case have been forwarded to the Federal Housing Administration and to the Criminal Division.

[redacted] are set out fully in a memorandum dated July 14, 1954, prepared by our New York Office, a copy of which is attached.

A copy of the attachment is also being furnished to Assistant Attorney General Warren Olney III, with copies of this memorandum. In addition, a copy of the attached memorandum is being furnished to Mr. Lester P. Condon, Federal Housing Administration, Washington, D. C.

Inasmuch as the information set out in the memorandum dated July 14, 1954, prepared by our New York Office does not indicate that a Federal criminal statute within our investigative jurisdiction has been violated, investigation regarding this matter is not contemplated.

b7c

Att[redacted]

cc - Assistant Attorney General Warren Olney III (Attachment)

b7c

cc: Bufile [redacted]

b7c

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MAILED
JUL 15 1954
COMM-FBI

JUL 23 1954

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DATE 7/22/[illegible] BY SP3-Outside

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22036

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/22/12 BY SP3 Hayes
SP6-Expires 10/26/87

Date: July 14, 1954

To: Mr. Lester P. Condon
Federal Housing Administration
Room 524
1001 Vermont Avenue, Northwest
Washington, D. C.

From: John Edgar Hoover - Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: CONGRESSMAN ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR.
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING
(Investigative Division, Accounting and Fraud Section)

During investigation of the case captioned [redacted] Federal Housing Administration Matters, Bribery," our New York Office examined certain records maintained by [redacted]

[redacted] are set out fully in a memorandum dated July 14, 1954, prepared by our New York Office. A copy of this memorandum is attached. Additional copies of the attachment have been furnished to Deputy Attorney General William P. Rogers and Assistant Attorney General Warren Olney III.

b7C b7D

[redacted] b7C

62-99053
cc: Bufile [redacted]

100-61230-HHX2

RECORDED-51

EX-107

JUL 16

MAILED 8
JUL 15 1954
COMM-FBI

JUL 22

Inasmuch as the information contained in the memorandum of our New York office dated July 14, 1954, does not indicate that any criminal statute within our investigative jurisdiction has been violated no further action by this Bureau with regard to this matter is contemplated.

b7c

- 2 -

(Rev. 4-17-85)

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☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

_____ Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

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☐ For your information: _____

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(Rev. 4-17-85)

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☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

_____ Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

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☐ For your information: _____

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FBI/DOJ

COPY: [redacted] b7C

Mr. William P. Rogers
Deputy Attorney General

August 1, 1954

Director, FBI

100-51230-9943

CONGRESSMAN ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR.
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING

RECORDED-29 100-51230-9943

EX-125

Reference is made to my memorandum of July 11, 1954, copies of which were designated for Mr. Olney. You will recall the subject of that memorandum concerned information developed in another investigation indicating that [redacted] b7D

This is to advise the Bureau has been confidentially informed that [redacted] b7D

For your further information, the Bureau has also been confidentially advised [redacted]

The above is being furnished for your information and no further action is contemplated by this Bureau.

cc; 2 - Assistant Attorney General
Warren Olney III

[redacted] b7C
1954

5Y6-Reviewer 10/1/87
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DATE 7/22/87 BY 513-Clerk

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. ROSEN [redacted] b7C

FROM : E. H. WINTERROWD

DATE: August 17, 1954

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 7/22/82 BY SP3 Clerk

SUBJECT: CONGRESSMAN ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR.
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING
(Investigative Division, Accounting and Fraud Section)

b7C

Tolson
Boardman
Nichols
Belmont
Harbo
Mohr
Parsons
Rogers
Tamm
Sizoo
Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Holloman
Gandy

G.I.R.-6

[redacted] b7C b7D

[redacted] b7C

The Bureau files reflect that on July 14, 1954, we furnished information to Deputy Attorney General Rogers, Assistant Attorney General Olney and FHA developed during the course of another investigation. In that investigation an examination was made of the

[redacted] b7C b7D

[redacted] 1954

Attachment sent 8-17-54 [redacted] b7C

RECORDED - 30
EX-128 OR

100-512530-[redacted]
13 AUG 24 1954

b7C

Memorandum for Mr. Rosen

[redacted] b7C b7D

In furnishing the above information to Rogers and Olney on July 14, 1954, we advised that inasmuch as there was no indication of a violation of a Federal Statute within our jurisdiction, no investigation was contemplated.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

It is recommended the information received from [redacted] b7C b7D be furnished to Deputy Attorney General William P. Rogers and Assistant Attorney General Warren Olney III on a confidential basis and that no further action be taken in this matter. If you approve, there is attached the appropriate memorandum.

[redacted] b7C

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation DATE: September 29, 1954

FROM : Warren Olney III, Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division

SUBJECT: Congressman Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. 51-16
Miscellaneous - Information Concerning

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Boardman
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Sizoo
Mr. Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Mr. Holloman
Miss Gandy

Reference is made to the above-captioned individual.

The United States Attorney, Southern District of New York, has this matter under consideration at the present time. They have requested our office to furnish to them copies of your reports which contain interviews with [redacted]. Therefore, it is requested that you furnish the United States Attorney with a copy of the report made at New York on June 17, 1954, by Special Agent [redacted] and also a three-page report dated July 14, 1954, attached to your report of the same date to the Deputy Attorney General in this matter.

100-61230-1945
62-79453-23

RECORDED - 17

EX-110

24 SEP 24 1954

EX. PRC.

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G.I.R.-1

SAC, New York [redacted] September 28, 1954

100-61230-19485

RECORDED 37 Director, FBI [redacted]

EX-110 CONGRESSMAN ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR. 2039

MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING

There is transmitted herewith for your information one copy of a memorandum dated 9/23/54 directed to this Bureau by Warren Olney III, Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division. Pursuant to Mr. Olney's request there are being furnished herewith a copy of a report dated June 17, 1954, by Special Agent [redacted] in the matter entitled [redacted] PLAN; Bribery," as well as a photostat of a blank memorandum prepared by the New York Office dated July 14, 1954.

You are instructed to furnish the copy of the aforesaid report and the afore-mentioned Photostat to the U. S. Attorney, Southern District of New York, immediately. For your information, when the blank memorandum was furnished to the Criminal Division on July 14, 1954, the Bureau advised that inasmuch as the information set forth in instant memorandum did not indicate that a Federal criminal statute within the investigative jurisdiction of the Bureau had been violated no investigation in this regard was contemplated.

Attachment

b7c

cc: Buffalo [redacted]

b7c

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COMM - FBI SEP 28 1954 MAILED 30

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The Attorney General — November 4, 1954

Director, FBI — 2238

REQUEST FROM CONGRESSMAN ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR., FOR DATA IN FBI FILES

Attached are a note dated October 30, 1954, and a telegram of the same date, which were forwarded to this Bureau by Congressman Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., of the Sixteenth District of New York. He desires to know whether or not the Justice for Cyprus Committee is "on the list of or under investigation by The Attorney General." He has been advised that his communication was being forwarded to you.

The telegram submitted by Congressman Powell was written by Stephen S. Scopas, Supreme President, Order of AHEPA and General Chairman, Justice for Cyprus Committee, 280 Broadway, New York City. The Order of AHEPA is a national organization for American citizens of Hellenic descent. The abbreviation "AHEPA" is made up of the initial letters of the words, American Hellenic Education Progressive Association, and one of its aims is to encourage Greek peoples to take an active part in the social, political, economical and educational life of America.

There is attached also a copy of a resolution passed at a mass meeting sponsored by the Justice for Cyprus Committee, Orchestra Hall, Chicago, Illinois, held on August 29, 1954. This is the only information we have which is identifiable with this group.

b7C

Enclosures (3)

cc - Mr. William P. Rogers (with one copy of each attachment)
Deputy Attorney General

NOTE: There is considerable information in our files indicating Congressman Powell's affiliation with left-wing groups. Our relations with him have been on a very formal basis.

Tolson
Boardman
Nichols
Belmont
Harbo
Mohr
Parsons
Rosen
Tamm
Sizoo
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Tele. Room
Holloman
Gandy

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1 photostat copy filed in - 98-1-15439

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